

975.2
C54e
v.2
1185587

GENEALOGY COLLECTION

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 02228 8317

THE EASTERN SHORE
of
MARYLAND AND VIRGINIA

THE EASTERN SHORE OF MARYLAND AND VIRGINIA

Editor and Author

CHARLES B. CLARK

*Professor of History and Political Science
Washington College*

VOLUME II

LEWIS HISTORICAL PUBLISHING CO., INC.

NEW YORK

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY
OF
FORT WAYNE AND GREEN COUNTY, IND.

COPYRIGHT
LEWIS HISTORICAL PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC.
1950

WPA 8812 Q 10000 807

20

COMMITTEE ON THE ARTS AND LETTERS

1185587

Modern Eastern Shore of Virginia

CHAPTER XXVII

The Eastern Shore of Virginia in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries

By James Egbert Mears*

I. INTRODUCTION

In war, in peace, in politics, in religion and in economics the people of the Virginia Eastern Shore have had rôles of no little consequence, and in the text that follows some of their more important activities will be narrated. Space limitations prevent a complete coverage of a period of a century and a half. Suffice to say that these people have kept pace with the progress of the times in education, home comforts, transportation, agriculture, etc. While cherishing their traditions, they have not hesitated to discard methods and customs that are no longer appropriate. It is thought not to be an overstatement to say that probably in no other rural section are the inhabitants more progressive or, taken as a whole, do they live in greater comfort than the people of Accomack and Northampton counties.

2. POPULATION

When the second decennial census was taken in 1800 there resided in Accomack County 15,693 people, and in Northampton 6,763. A century later Accomack had 32,570 and Northampton 13,770, while the 1940 census lists 32,980 in the upper county and 17,515 in the lower.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century the colored population in Accomack numbered 5,960, of whom 1,541 were free Negroes. At the same time Northampton had 654 free Negroes and 3,178 colored slaves. In 1860 there were in Accomack 10,661 whites, 3,418 free Negroes and 4,507 slaves, while Northampton had 2,998 whites, 962 free colored and 3,872 slaves.

In 1900 the Negro population in Accomack was 11,825 and in Northampton 7,627. Forty years later there were in Accomack 12,577 Negroes and in Northampton 9,492.

Thus it will be seen that there never has been a rapid growth in population in either county, among either the whites or the Negroes. It is believed that migration to other sections that were or are more industrial than the agricultural Virginia Eastern Shore accounts in a large measure for the very moderate increase

*Son of James H. and Rose (Wise) Mears, born in Hacks Neck—near Harborton—Accomack County, Virginia. Episcopalian. World traveler. Author of *Hacks Neck and its People* (1937), and since 1934 of "Shoreline," a column in the *Eastern Shore News*. Though the major part of Mr. Mears' adult life has been spent away from the Eastern Shore, much of it in Florida and Illinois—he resides in Chicago—he is constantly doing research in historical topics about his native section. As a hobby he grows delphiniums and gladiolus at his summer home, Lake Geneva, Wisconsin.

in population in this section during almost a century and a half. From the early days of the Republic many native Eastern Shoremen, when they became old enough to provide for themselves, sought opportunities elsewhere, particularly in Baltimore and to a lesser extent in Norfolk and in Philadelphia.

In Accomack in 1830, in 1920 and again in 1940 the population in the respective decades was less than it was ten years earlier, and the same is true of Northampton in 1850 and 1940. Accomack's greatest population was in 1910, when 36,650 were enumerated. Northampton reached its highest in 1930 with a total of 18,565.

In 1870, when the United States census reports began to show the number of foreign born in various sections, there were in Accomack seventeen foreign born, and in Northampton seven. In 1900 Accomack had 65 and Northampton 61. In 1940 the number in Accomack had decreased to 50 and in Northampton to 52. In the latter county in that year were seven foreign born of other races.

While numerous whites from other states have settled on the Virginia Eastern Shore from time to time, it is obvious that an overwhelming majority of the present white population descended from persons who were living in these counties a century or more ago.

3. RACE RELATIONS

The Virginia Eastern Shore is fortunate in that, generally speaking, the relation between the white and colored races—the population is slightly more than forty per cent Negro—is harmonious. While the whites continue to insist on segregation, almost all of them are willing to co-operate to improve the lot of the colored people. Though they are, by far and large, the chief tax payers, they vote bonds and otherwise provide funds for modern school buildings for Negroes. There is hardly a colored person in either county who, in time of need, cannot obtain assistance from some white neighbor. Many colored people own their homes or farms and operate various businesses. One lawyer and two physicians of their race practice on the Virginia Eastern Shore.

In proportion to their number, few of the Virginia Eastern Shore colored people find their way into the criminal courts. The one lynching of which there is a record or tradition occurred in 1866, when Federal forces still occupied the Eastern Shore.¹ A colored man who brutally killed a white woman and a colored woman almost simultaneously—and confessed to the murder of a colored man a few months earlier—was lynched at Pungoteague.

4. POLITICS

What were the political divisions on the Virginia Eastern Shore at the beginning of the nineteenth century are vague. It seems probable that Accomack at least was Federalist and later Whig for a number of decades. Barton H. Wise, in his *Life of Henry A. Wise, 1806-1876*, states that Major John Wise (father of Henry A.), a member of the Virginia House of Delegates from Accomack from 1791 to 1801 and its speaker during the sessions of 1798 and 1799, was a Federalist. It is possible that the electorate was influenced in its political thinking by General John Cropper, a close friend of President Washington, a Federalist.

According to Henry A. Wise, in *Seven Decades of the Union*, Littleton Upshur, Jr., who was a member of the House of Delegates from Northampton in

1807-09, was a Federalist, and he voted against a resolution in that body thanking Jefferson for his services to his country. Upshur was the father of Abel Parker Upshur, of whom we shall speak later.

In his *Sectionalism in Virginia, 1776-1861*,² Professor Charles H. Ambler of the West Virginia University, in referring to the popular vote on the calling of a constitutional convention, taken in 1828, lists how various sections voted, and adds that "the old Federalist stronghold, Accomack County, voted for it." In 1830 Accomack and Northampton voted for ratification of the new constitution, which included the suffrage clause, whereby property as well as population determined the number of representatives in the legislature. The distinguished attorneys, Thomas R. Joynes of Accomack and Abel Parker Upshur of Northampton were among the strongest advocates and ablest debaters on the "mixed basis" question, according to Henry A. Wise (supra). Both Accomack and Northampton sent Whig delegates to the State Legislature in 1834 and 1835, according to Professor Ambler. He adds that in 1813 the Whigs elected to Congress Thomas M. Bayly of Accomack.³

In 1824 Accomack divided its vote almost evenly between John Quincy Adams and Andrew Jackson for president, while Northampton went for William H. Crawford. Four years later Accomack gave its vote to Adams, while Northampton was carried by Jackson.⁴ In the presidential contest of 1848 Accomack went for General Zachary Taylor, Whig, while Louis Cass, Democrat, was the victor in Northampton. In 1856 James Buchanan, Democrat, carried both counties by narrow margins. Former president Millard Fillmore, the American or "Know Nothing" party nominee for president, lost Accomack by 57 votes and Northampton by seventeen. The year before both Accomack and Northampton had "succumbed to the 'Know Nothing' craze, for governor as well as for local offices," according to Judge Samuel T. Ross, in *Recollections of Bench and Bar of Accomack*.⁷

In the presidential contest of 1860, Lincoln, the Republican nominee, received not a vote on the Virginia Eastern Shore, and Stephen A. Douglas, the regular nominee of the Democrats, did little better—he received eighty votes in Accomack and seven in Northampton. Breckenridge, a former vice president, the nominee of the States Rights wing of the Democratic party, received 737 votes in Accomack, while Bell, on the Constitutional Union ticket, had one vote less. In Northampton Bell's vote was 234, while Breckenridge received 214.⁸

Not much is now known as to the party affiliation of most others who carried the Eastern Shore before the War Between the States. Henry A. Wise, Accomackian, who represented Virginia's first congressional district in the United States House of Representatives from 1833 to 1844, and who was Governor of Virginia from 1856 to 1859, was a Democrat, though in 1840 he supported the fusion ticket on which William Henry Harrison, Whig, and John Tyler, Democrat, were candidates for president and vice president. In 1859 John Letcher, the Democratic nominee for governor, lost both Accomack and Northampton to William L. Goggin, an old line Whig, according to the Richmond papers.

Judge Ross refers to Judge Edward P. Pitts, who was a member of the State Senate from 1848 to 1852, before his election to the circuit judgeship, as "an old line Whig." It seems probable that Dr. George T. Yerby, a member of the House of Delegates from Northampton from 1839 to 1854 and again from 1857 to 1861, was a Whig, since Brigadier General H. H. Lockwood, who commanded the Federal forces on the Virginia Eastern Shore 1861-63, in a letter to Dr. Yerby,

dated November 25, 1863, in reply to a letter requesting a “certificate of loyalty” (to the Union), said, in part: “As to your antecedents, I am informed and presume true that you were always conservative. . . .” Generally speaking, in the days before the War Between the States, the conservatives in Virginia were Whigs. Barton H. Wise (*supra*) says that the Virginia Whigs disliked “anything Jeffersonian and would have voted for the Devil himself in preference to a Democrat.” He relates that once John Syme, editor of the *Petersburg Intelligencer*, was asked whether or not a Democrat was a gentleman. His reply was: “Well, he is apt not to be; but if he is, he is in damned bad company.”

With the ending of the War Between the States and the enfranchisement of the Negroes, the political pendulum, in so far as controlled by the whites, swung to the Democrats—and it has never gone back. In the South for seventy years after the Reconstruction days the Democratic party—nationally, state and locally—was regarded as strictly the white man’s party, while on the Eastern Shore to affiliate with the Republican party was, in the minds of the majority of the white people, to approve of social equality and non-segregation of the races. Until the turn of the century at least for a white man to vote Republican was to accept the designation of “black Republican,” to many a term as offensive and to be resented almost as much as if called the vulgar term relating to a canine’s maternity. Even in the days when the Democrats split on the readjustment of Virginia’s state debt and numerous citizens, including Confederate veterans, drifted into the Republican party, Accomack County never was carried by a Republican candidate for president, Congress, governor or any county office, nor has it been to this day, even though, since 1904, with the going into effect of the restrictive suffrage clause in the present State constitution, the Negro vote has been negligible. Prior to 1904, with the large Negro vote throughout Tidewater Virginia, Accomack’s heavy Democratic vote often was necessary to give victory to the Democratic nominees for Congress in the First District and for members of the State Legislature in Northampton and Elizabeth City counties. Since 1879 Northampton has been linked with Accomack to elect what is termed a “floater delegate” to the Virginia House of Delegates. In practice this representative is selected wholly by the Democrats of Northampton. The same condition prevailed as to Elizabeth City County between 1900 and 1910.

Northampton’s Negro population far outnumbering that of the whites, and the Negroes having voted almost solidly Republican—as they did nationwide until 1936, when they flocked to Franklin Roosevelt—Republican candidates for president, congressman and governor and other State officers carried that county without exception from 1869 to 1890, when William A. Jones, Democratic nominee for Congress, won it by twelve votes. Two years later Harrison, Republican nominee for president, received thirteen more votes than did Cleveland, Democrat. Not since have the Republicans carried the county for any major office and perhaps not even for a county position. There are no figures available for local offices. However, among the list of members of the Virginia House of Delegates is the name of Peter J. Carter, Negro, who represented Northampton from 1871 through 1878. In 1899 Frank Hoskins, Colored, ran, without party backing, for the House of Delegates. He was defeated.

At the first election—in July, 1869—in which Negroes were eligible to vote in Northampton, there were 1,216 Negroes and 701 whites registered. In Accomack the Negroes who registered numbered 1,717 and the whites 2,611.⁹

Few Eastern Shoremen have held State offices and not many more served in

Congress. In a very large measure this may be attributed to the fact that the Chesapeake Bay has made personal contacts with people of other sections of the Old Dominion less easy than where there are no water barriers of consequence to be crossed. The result has been that in most instances citizens of Accomack and Northampton, no matter what their abilities and qualifications for district or State offices, have not, with few exceptions, been sufficiently well-known in other sections to attract to them the voters of the distant areas. Perhaps to a greater extent than is generally the case elsewhere, the political leaders of the Eastern Shore have been unwilling to stand solidly behind Eastern Shore candidates for State or district honors even though members of the same political party.

Abel Parker Upshur, an able jurist, one of the outstanding debaters of the Virginia Constitutional Convention of 1829-30 (the membership of which included ex-Presidents Madison and Monroe, John Tyler and John Randolph of Roanoke) was successively Secretary of the Navy and Secretary of State in the cabinet of President John Tyler.

Virginia's only governor from the Eastern Shore was Henry Alexander Wise (1855-59). He lost both Accomack and Northampton however to his Know Nothing opponent—Accomack by 116, according to Hambleton's *Life of Henry A. Wise* (1856), and Northampton by 55, the official returns in the Clerk's Office at Eastville show. These results may be attributed to (1) Wise's successful fight in the Constitutional Convention of 1850 for representation in the legislature on a white population basis rather than on the then existing "mixed basis," in which property and population counted equally, and (2) though a Mason, to his repeated attacks, in his campaign for governor, on the Know Nothing platform, regarded as anti-Catholic. The former made him very unpopular with slave owners throughout tidewater homes and the latter with the overwhelming Protestant population on the Eastern Shore. As heretofore stated, all Know Nothing candidates swept the Eastern Shore in that election.

Besides a great orator and a brilliant lawyer, Wise, in the field of State and National politics and in diplomacy—he was minister to Brazil after retiring from Congress—undoubtedly was one of the great Virginians of his day.

During the seventy-two years between the inauguration of President Washington and the beginning of the War Between the States, Eastern Shoremen represented the equivalent of the present First Congressional district in the United States House of Representatives for thirty-four years. Besides Henry A. Wise, there were Thomas Evans (1797-1801), Thomas Monteagle Bayly (1813-15) and Thomas Henry Bayly (1844-56), all of Accomack, and John Stratton (1801-03) and Severn Eyre Parker (1819-21), of Northampton. Since the Civil War the district has been represented by only two Eastern Shoremen: Judge George Tankard Garrison (1881-85) and T. H. Bayly Browne (1887-91), both of Accomack.¹⁰ (Browne was one of the few Republicans ever elected to Congress from the First District.)

William H. B. Custis, Democrat, of Accomack, was elected to Congress from the First District in 1865, but, along with all members elected that year in States that had seceded, he was not permitted to take his seat. He had opposed secession.

After Virginia seceded from the Union, Joseph E. Segar was elected to the United States Congress for the term of 1861-63, representing the section around Hampton Roads and the Eastern Shore, then in possession of the Federals. He had represented Northampton County in the Virginia House of Delegates in 1836-38. Moving to the Hampton section, he was a member of the same body from 1848 to

1851 and again from 1855 to Virginia's secession in April, 1861. He was re-elected to Congress but was not seated. Later the Legislature of the "reorganized" (Federal) government of Virginia, at Alexandria, chose him United States Senator but the election was not recognized. At the beginning of the War of Secession he owned the Hygeia Hotel at Fort Monroe, situated between the water and the fortification, and it was ordered demolished—by the Federal authorities.

The Eastern Shoreman probably most widely known throughout Virginia since the 1860s was G. Walter Mapp of Accomack, a distinguished member of the State Senate from 1912 to 1922. With the backing of the State's dominant political organization, he was, in 1918, defeated for the Democratic nomination for Congress from the First district (an anti-Organization stronghold) by fewer than 150 votes. In 1921 he was, it was generally understood, to have been the selection of the dominant organization for the Democratic nomination for governor, but for health and financial reasons decided not to be a candidate that year. In 1925 and again in 1929 he made the race for the same honor, in each instance having the opposition of the dominant faction, and each time was defeated. While Senator Mapp carried the Eastern Shore by overwhelming majorities in his races for Congress and for governor, the vote on the Eastern Shore in favor of his leading opponent for Congress was ample to give the latter the election. At the time of his death in 1941, Senator Mapp was serving the Tidewater people with distinction as chairman of the State Commission of Fisheries.

5. RELIGION

The Methodists and the Baptists continue to be the predominant denominations—in membership and in physical properties—on the Virginia Eastern Shore, as they have been for more than a century.

The interest in evangelical religion aroused by the Wesleys and others in the British Isles in the eighteenth century had spread to Accomack and Northampton before the American Republic was out of its swaddling clothes. The several Methodist churches in Accomack, organized under Bishop Francis Asbury, and the Baptist, in both Accomack and Northampton, founded by Reverend Elijah Baker, continued to grow, and their followers carried forward the work of their respective denominations with crusading zeal and enthusiasm. The nineteenth century was not far advanced when the number of their communicants on the Virginia peninsula exceeded that of the former Church of England (Protestant Episcopal) in these counties. The loss of membership by the latter may be attributed to the fact that not only had many of the clergy of the Church of England in Virginia been openly or clandestinely opposed to the Revolutionary War¹¹ but too often had done little to advance the spiritual life of the people. Added to the difficulties of the Episcopal Church was its dis-establishment by the Virginia General Assembly in 1802, the result of which not only deprived it of support by taxation but its loss of virtually all of its property other than the houses of worship. (A notable example was the Glebe in Northampton, bequeathed to Hungars parish, as an alternate legatee, by Stephen Charlton in 1654, which, under the foregoing act, was claimed by Northampton County's Overseers of the Poor. The vestry fought the matter through the courts of Virginia, basing the contest on the grounds that this large estate had not been supplied the church through taxation and therefore was not subject to the particular statute. However, in 1854, the State Supreme Court ruled in favor of the Overseers of the Poor.)

Spirited and often acrimonious rivalry continued between the Methodists and the Baptists in particular into the early years of the twentieth century.

While both the Methodists and the Baptists made it a practice to hold revival meetings in their churches at least annually—and generally they continue to do so—the former supplemented these services by holding camp meetings at conveniently located points. At these meetings (often sponsored by the entire district or by a number of churches of the denomination in a given area) there was preaching at least twice daily, as well as prayer and “experience” meetings. They lasted two weeks or more and were attended by thousands, who came from far and near. Generally the tabernacles were roof-covered frame structures, with open sides, and the seating capacity frequently 500 or more. Surrounding same and nearby were tents and/or semi-cottages, usually of frame construction, occupied by families who came for the entire series of meetings.

How early the Methodists began these camp meetings on the Virginia Eastern Shore is undetermined. Mrs. Nannie W. (Ames) Mears, in a sketch of Pungoteague,¹² states that “in 1800 Reverend Thomas Smith, a minister of Northampton circuit, held a camp meeting in the vicinity of Pungoteague.” Reverend Joshua Thomas mentions having attended a camp meeting in the vicinity of Pungoteague in 1806. Thomas, not then a minister nor a Methodist, was acting as a pilot of a group of vessels from Maryland which were carrying people to these meetings.¹³ In 1828 Henry A. Wise, then a young lawyer enroute to Nashville, Tennessee, to be married, stopped at Tangier during the time a camp meeting was being held on that island. In a lengthy description of the meeting he stated that from “the time of Asbury and Coke and from a memorable date of persecution of the Methodists on the Eastern Shore [Tangier] had been made a place of refuge for their religious worship on the occasions of their great annual assemblages in camp meetings. There, upon the bald sands of the beach, every year, have the tents of worship, wooden and sail cloth, been pitched by piety . . . to watch and pray and preach for weeks at a time . . . The population of cities, towns and county on both sides of the Chesapeake, from the mouth of the Susquehanna to the Capes, congregate there at the wonted season of August . . . until the island harbors are studded with shipping and a forest of masts.”¹⁴

In 1854 the Baltimore papers carried an advertisement of a steamer trip to Tangier to take persons to the camp meeting there. As late as 1899 services were held at Turlington’s Camp Ground, slightly to the northeast of Keller, near the present Keller Fair Grounds. This camp, first opened in 1871, seems to have been preceded by bush or bower meetings. “. . . The few tents then erected on the grounds have since increased to 41 private tents and two excellent boarding tents . . .”¹⁵

The Methodists on the Virginia Eastern Shore, as elsewhere in the border States, were split into the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church South as a result of the decision of the General Conference of the Methodists in 1844 to deprive Bishop James O. Andrew of authority to exercise his office because he was an unwilling slave owner. (He had inherited from his late wife some slaves, and under the laws of Georgia, of which he was a legal resident, he could not liberate them.)

In 1935, when he was pastor of Market Street Methodist Episcopal Church South in Onancock, Reverend J. Shenton Lodge prepared a paper entitled *Onancock Methodist History, 1784-1935*,¹⁶ “compiled entirely from written records discovered in Accomack County.” According to Reverend Mr. Lodge, “the cele-

brated Andrew's case . . . is not reflected in the historical record of quarterly conferences as having excited controversy. The Q. C. journal of February 28, 1846, reveals a resolution relative to the right of the world to intermeddle in church polity; and later indignation is recorded against a mysterious correspondent to the 'Old Dominion,' a newspaper published in Portsmouth, for an article which it is alleged 'misrepresents the Methodist Episcopal Church in Accomack.' Contemporary records would indicate however that there was much bitterness and some persecution which emanated from the South; and in 1848 Boggs Chapel (Andrew Chapel) seceded to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South."

In the Virginia State Library is a pamphlet containing an address to the Methodists of the Virginia Eastern Shore, over the signature of Judge George P. Scarborough¹⁷ and fifteen other leading citizens of the Shore, urging them to affiliate with the Southern Methodist Church. It seems probable that it was to this address that the resolution of February 28, 1846, referred.

What congregations other than Boggs (Andrew) Chapel affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal Church South before 1860, is very indefinite from information available to this writer. It seems probable that one was at Pungoteague, for on March 30, 1847, a deed was given for one-fourth of an acre of land "On which is situated the house of worship of the Methodist Episcopal South."

Robert R. Richardson, writing in the *Methodist Christian Advocate and Journal* of December 17, 1845, indicates that the Methodists at Capeville and Johnsonstown voted in favor of going over to the Methodist Episcopal Church South. "At Salem" [in the present Cheriton-Oyster section], said Mr. Richardson, "after due notice had been given that there would be a vote as to whether to remain with the Methodist Episcopal or go to the Methodist Episcopal Church South, the vote was taken and it went ten for the Methodist Episcopal Church and six for the South. . . . After the vote was taken and a majority had voted to adhere to the Methodist Episcopal Church some of the opposite party went around among the members during the week and tried to make proselytes. The brother who took this matter in hand said that he got one member to recant his vote and enough who had not voted to outnumber the votes which had been given in favor of the Methodist Episcopal Church. . . . The vote was taken fairly and publicly went in favor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and this is the way in which the bishops directed the border societies to declare their preference."

Todd, in his *Methodists on the Peninsula*, stated that "in 1860 Reverend James A. Massey, with Reverend George Cummings, was assigned to the Onancock circuit. The excitement on the slavery agitation was at high tide. Early in the summer a mass meeting was held at Pungoteague at which it was resolved to appoint a committee of nine who were charged with the duty of driving Methodist preachers from Virginia 'by any means they find necessary.'

"During the preaching at Garrison's Chapel the following Sunday morning this committee appeared on the scene and entered the church; but so manifest was the Divine presence that they could not muster courage to interrupt him. They notified the people, however, that there should be no preaching in the afternoon at Trinity (at Downing's Wharf, in Northampton), and that if the minister attempted it, he would be mobbed. Mr. Cummings was strongly urged not to risk holding that service. However, he went, and found the committee in full force . . . warning him not to enter the church. . . ."

Reverend Mr. Lodge states further that "It was not, however, until 1860, that we left the Methodist Episcopal Church, and then not to unite with the Southern

church. On June 8, 1860, the Onancock church passed the following resolutions:

Whereas, the result of the late slavery agitation in our general conference is such that we on the border cannot acquiesce in . . .

Resolved: 1st, That we find ourselves under the necessity of dissolving connection with the Methodist Episcopal. . . . 2nd, We invite the ministry and laity of the border conferences to hold a convention . . . for the purpose of organizing a Central Methodist Church.

"The resolution was signed by O. P. Twyford chairman and G. C. Tyler secretary.

"We find in the quarterly conference records of January 19, 1861:

Resolved, That the quarterly conference . . . do hereby notify the presiding elder . . . that we refuse to receive any preacher from the Philadelphia Conference while that Conference remains connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

". . . a convention (was) held at Onancock on January 29, 1861, at which various churches were represented; and which resolved 'to stand detached and alone.' They agreed, however, that they would petition the Baltimore Conference for a supply 'providing it shall sever from the Methodist Episcopal Church and does not coalesce with the Methodist Episcopal Church South'

"The pastor, Reverend William G. Coe, went with his people and assisted in organizing 'The Convention of Accomack County—an Independent Church.' . . . This convention consisted of Onancock, Drummondtown, Ayres, Ebenezer (Old Todd's Chapel at Modestown), Garrison's (Painter) and Trinity. . . .

"From 1860 to 1864 there was no Methodist Episcopal Church in Onancock. In 1864 however certain members of the Independent Churches became dissatisfied and were allowed to withdraw, with permission to call a pastor from Philadelphia and reestablish the Methodist Episcopal Church. The split seems to have been political but the records of the convention show an effort to 'avoid strife, and promote as far as possible, under the circumstances, harmony of feeling.' The heart of this was clearly in Onancock, as is evidenced by the fact that the membership of the convention dropped from 104 to 17. The dissenters, being in the majority, occupied Cokesbury and called a pastor from Philadelphia. The convention carried on 'detached and alone' until April 18, 1866."

Whether other Methodist congregations than Boggs (Andrew) Chapel, Capeville, Johnson's, Salem and Pungoteague affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal Church South before Virginia seceded, this writer does not know. From orders issued by the provost marshal, Eastern Shore of Virginia, in 1864, it is inferred that once the Ordinance of Secession was ratified by the people of the State, a majority of the members of the other Methodist congregations on the Eastern Shore decided to go over to the Southern Methodists.

Colonel Frank J. White, commanding officer of the Federal forces on the Eastern Shore in 1864 and 1865, from Eastville on July 12, 1864, issued the following order:¹⁸

At the request of the various loyal members of the Methodist Episcopal Church on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, an investigation has been made into certain charges of disloyalty . . . made against certain elders and congregations belonging to that church in their religious capacity.

It is not the desire or the intention of the military authorities to claim

jurisdiction over matters solely pertaining to religious beliefs or the exercise of any form or worship, but by the introduction of political questions or by affiliation with organizations avowedly disloyal, both ministers and congregations bring themselves properly within such jurisdiction.

A majority of the congregations of the Methodist Episcopal Church on this Shore at the outbreak of this rebellion committed various acts of mob violence, driving away from their pulpits at the point of the bayonet ministers against whom no charge could be preferred other than that of loyalty to their country. They held in their charges public meetings in which disloyal sentiments were expressed and fidelity to the Federal Government denounced as a crime. They passed resolutions dissolving all connection with the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church because of its loyalty, and giving their adhesion to the Methodist Episcopal Church South, an organization now and then avowedly disloyal, owing its origin and existence to political and treasonable prejudices and sentiments. These acts have never been repudiated as publicly as they were committed, and hence these congregations, until absolved from the responsibility attaching to them, cannot be permitted to continue their present organization.

It is, therefore, ordered, that no public assemblies or congregations belonging to the Methodist Church upon this Shore, except such as are under the jurisdiction of the Philadelphia Conference, shall be permitted until at a public meeting, called for that purpose, a majority of the members of each congregation, shall, by published resolutions, declare themselves loyal, and repudiate any and all connection with the Methodist Episcopal Church South or other disloyal organization.

Upon proper proof that the above conditions have been complied with, permission to resume worship will be given from this office.

On August 25, 1864, from Eastville, Colonel White issued "Special Order No. 43," reading:

The independent Methodist congregations at Bell Haven, Onancock, Hadlocktown, Drummondtown and in the vicinity of Evers Chapel, and on Ames Ridge, under the charge of Reverend W. G. Coe, having passed resolutions prescribed by Circular from this Office, and having acknowledged themselves loyal, will be permitted to assemble at such times or places as they may desire for public worship.

On October 15, 1864, the bans were removed from the "Methodist congregations at Capeville, Salem, Johnson's, Franktown, Bethel, Cradock, Locustville, Burton's and Andrew Chapel" and on November 4, 1864, against "Downing's, Conquest Chapel, Horntown Chapel, Pocomoke Chapel, Saxe's Chapel, Modestown Chapel, Guilford Chapel and Oak Grove Chapel."

It seems probable that the order of Colonel White of July 12, 1864 (*supra*) came about as a result of a letter¹⁹ of Dr. George C. Tyler, Collector of Internal Revenue, Fourth Virginia District, to General B. F. Butler, from Onancock, in March of 1864, in which he asserted that Methodists and Baptists on the Virginia Eastern Shore were using their churches for disloyal utterances. "The Methodist Episcopalans we are more familiar with," wrote Dr. Tyler, "and would like to draw your attention more particularly to them. From 1789 to 1844 the Methodists of the entire peninsula were under control of the Philadelphia Conference, and no

ministry gave more satisfaction to their people than these up to that time. Then came the division of the church and the inauguration of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Nearly all in Accomack stood firm in their adhesion to the Philadelphia Conference, and so did a part of Northampton, but politicians took side with the church South, and stimulated the ignorant rabble to acts of violence. In Northampton the war began by the assembling of rioters at a place called Salem's, and dragging from the pulpit the Reverend M. Gray of the Philadelphia Conference, and so from place to place they were driven till all the 'abolitionists,' as they were styled, had been banished from the county, and the places filled by 'good Southerners.' The same wild spirit of persecution followed us in Accomack but it was more successfully met here, and the church organization was preserved, though several churches were violently wrested from us. And so we continued to keep them at bay till 1860, when party spirit was so high that it was positively dangerous to receive a minister from the conference of our choice. We then for the present assumed a middle attitude and obtained a minister from Baltimore²⁰ but he proved to be a rank secessionist, and from his political conduct brought us into many troubles. Now we are comparatively a small party, but we have thought best to renew our allegiance to the old conference, and they have appointed a minister, whom we expect in a few days. . . . Of course so long as Secession preachers are allowed to occupy churches of any denomination, ours will have but small congregations. We think if they are not so allowed, a great opportunity to mislead the ignorant and keep up the strife would be taken away, and the people would have time to reflect more for themselves, and thus a great step would be taken towards restoring the church to her proper status, and benefiting the State at the same time."

The Independent Church, at a conference held at Drummondtown in April, 1866, according to Reverend Mr. Lodge, passed the following resolution:

"That in view of having united with the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and there being no further necessity for an independent church, we do now dissolve." During the same year these churches were transferred to the Virginia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

Cokesbury at Onancock continued its connection with the Philadelphia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church until 1868, when it and other Methodist Episcopal churches on the Virginia Eastern Shore were included in the newly formed Wilmington Conference of that denomination. Before the end of the nineteenth century there were or had been Methodist Episcopal churches at Chincoteague, New Church, Parksley, Crowsonstown, near Leemont (Ayes' Chapel), Chesconnessex Neck (Leatherbury's Chapel), Onancock (Cokesbury), Tangier, Occohannock Neck and Cape Charles (Bethany). When in 1939, the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Methodist Episcopal Church South and the Methodist Protestant Church, in the United States, merged and became the Methodist Church, Virginia Eastern Shore churches that went into the union from the Methodist Episcopal Church were Chincoteague, Cokesbury, Leatherbury's and Riverview, in the Chesconnessex section, Tangier, and Bethany, and from the Methodist Protestant churches at Atlantic, New Church, Wattsville, Greenbackville, Hallwood, Hunting Creek, Parksley and Greenbush.

In 1949 the Methodists were holding services in 52 churches on the Virginia Eastern Shore. The aggregate membership was in excess of eleven thousand and nearly eight thousand were enrolled in the church (Sunday) schools. Many of the congregations worship in large, modern brick buildings, ranging in value from

twenty thousand to fifty thousand dollars. Of the 52, Downing's (Oak Hall), Drummondtown (Accomac), Oak Grove (Melfa-Keller section), the Sunday school at which is said to be the oldest continuous church school in the United States, dating from 1785, and Garrison's (Painter) were founded under the leadership of Bishop Francis Asbury before the end of the eighteenth century.

In line with the policy of the Methodist Church, in 1948 the Eastern Shore District Conference of this denomination erected at Cheriton, in Northampton County, a home for its aged ministers.

Baptists—While the Baptist churches on the Virginia Eastern Shore, because of their local autonomy, were not disrupted as a result of slavery and secession, they were not without their troubles, according to the Baptist historian, Reverend Robert Williamson.²¹ Differences on theological matters, in particular antinomianism,²² caused great dissension between the congregations and ministers and among the churches themselves. Between 1800 and 1835 several of the Baptist churches seceded and set up their own association. Those who left were designated as Old School or Primitive Baptists, often locally referred to as "hard shell" or "anti-missionary" Baptists. None of the seceding congregations now exists in Accomack or Northampton though a church building of the Primitive Baptists still stands in the Messongo section. "The Baptist cause on the Eastern Shore had to contend with much opposition, but the opposing influences from without did little injury compared with those which sprang from its own bosom and which came well nigh destroying its very existence . . .," continued Reverend Mr. Williamson. He further records that the unfortunate choice of ministers in a number of instances retarded the growth of the church in days prior to the War Between the States.

During the War of Secession the local Baptists seem to have been "a thorn in flesh" of the Unionists and of the officers of the Federal forces then occupying the Virginia Eastern Shore. According to Dr. Tyler (*supra*), "the Baptists have several churches and more ministers who are, with one exception, raging secessionists, busy-bodies going from place to place, and supplying and propagating all kinds of sermons adverse to our country's cause. We have three or four of these 'men of God' around this village [Onancock] who have all swallowed the oath under number 49. One of them has charge of a female college,²³ where we think more mischief has been concocted in the way of blockade running and general and special disloyalty than in any other place of equal dimensions within this region."

According to the War Department records²⁴ the Assistant Provost Marshal of the Federal Army, at Onancock, on May 11, 1864, addressed the following letter to Reverend Patrick Warren, pastor of the Baptist Church, Onancock, Virginia:

Enclosed please find a copy of the President's proclamation. I would respectfully ask you to read the same to your congregation on your next regular day of worship and offer up prayer to Almighty God for the President of the United States and those in authority, which is only carrying out the sacred obligations of those who have sworn to support all proclamations the President made during the existing rebellion.

In 1948 there were 25 Baptist congregations in Accomack and Northampton, worshipping, for the most part, in large and costly edifices. There was a membership of 4,561 and a Sunday school enrollment of 4,239. Four of these churches—Chincoteague (near New Church), Hollies—earlier called Pungoteague—(near Keller), Red Bank (near Marionville) and Lower Northampton (near Capeville)

were organized by Reverend Elijah Baker, the pioneer Baptist missionary, soon after the colonies declared their independence of England.

Protestant Episcopal—The Episcopalians have never recovered their pre-Revolutionary strength on the Virginia Eastern Shore. Congregations continue to worship at the present old St. George's (completed about 1738, probably on the site of an earlier church edifice) at Pungoteague, at Hungars, (1742) near Bridgetown, at St. James (1838) at Accomac, at Christ's Church (1828) at Eastville, Holy Trinity at Onancock, Emmanuel at Jenkins Bridge and Emmanuel at Cape Charles.

It was in the middle of November, 1861, that the Federal Army invaded the Virginia Eastern Shore. Lacking barracks and stables, they occupied several churches in Accomack County, including St. George's,²⁵ which they used first as barracks and later as a stable for their horses, until some time in 1864. This lovely old building, in the form of a cross, with one end rounded, because of its form, often was referred to as the "Ace of Clubs" church. About 1858, to remedy a cracked wall, the church was thoroughly repaired, and its value estimated at \$20,000. It had the usual high altar of colonial churches, boxed-in pews, a brick floor and three balconies—one over each door. When it was vacated by the Federals it was as bare of interior fittings and furnishings, as well as windows and doors, as if it had been gutted by fire. A part of one wall was removed and the bricks used to build a chimney and fireplace for a nearby cook room for the troops.²⁶

On December 19, 1864, Frank J. White, Lieutenant Colonel, commanding the Federal forces on the Virginia Eastern Shore, sent the following letter to Reverend Dr. Colton, the Episcopal clergyman at Eastville:²⁷

I have great pleasure in informing you that under instructions from the Major General [B. F. Butler] commanding the Department [Virginia and North Carolina], I am ready to turn over to the trustees the church at Pungoteague in complete repair.

The commanding general regrets exceedingly that the necessities of war should have caused either the damage or the desecration of the old historic edifice, and now that absolute necessity, which alone could have reconciled him to occupy it, has been removed by the procurement of other quarters for the troops, he avails himself of the opportunity to restore it to its religious uses.

If you will take charge of the matter and proceed to fit the church, an appropriation will be made from the Provost fund to cover all expenses incurred.

However, nothing was done. According to testimony offered in support of the claim for damages (in 1905),²⁸ Dr. Colton sent carpenters and others to view the damages, and they estimated that it would cost \$5,000.00 to restore the church as it was at the time the occupancy by the Federal troops began. There is a tradition around Pungoteague that the Federals were unwilling to spend so much money for this purpose. Early in January of 1865, General Butler was removed as the commanding officer of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina and there is a possibility that his successor declined to authorize the appropriation for the repair of the church.

Being without means to repair the Colonial edifice, there were no services in St. George's for nearly a decade after the war's end. About 1875 \$2,500 was raised and it was repaired. Both wings, in a state of decay, were removed however, and there remains the present rectangular church, approximately 28 x 60

feet. The wings, according to the testimony (*supra*) were about "twenty feet wide and the length from one side to the other was about sixty feet."

About 1902 United States Senator Thomas S. Martin of Virginia introduced a bill in Congress to pay St. George's \$5,000 damages. In 1903, under a Senate resolution, the matter was sent to the United States Court of Claims for investigation and recommendation, and in 1905 the depositions of Leonard H. Ames, James K. Ayres, Dr. E. B. Finney, Mrs. Virginia Ames, Mrs. Margaret Mister, John J. Mister and Elijah Ames as to the condition of the church before and after the Federal occupancy were filed. The Court of Claims recommended \$2,500 damages, the amount expended for the repairs, plus \$300 rental. It was not until 1915 that Senator Martin was able to get through Congress authority to pay the \$2,800. In the same appropriation bill Makemie Presbyterian was granted \$400, the Methodist at Accomac \$300, Downing's Methodist \$235 and the Methodist Church at Pungoteague \$780. The last was so badly damaged that it was beyond repair. These churches had asked \$400, \$900, \$500 and \$2,500, respectively.

About the same time the bills to pay damages to the foregoing churches were introduced, Senator Martin offered a bill to pay St. James Episcopal (Accomac) certain damages. It was not, however, included in the foregoing appropriation measure. Obviously it was rejected by the Court of Claims.

Presbyterian—Presbyterianism on the Virginia Eastern Shore seems to have been dormant from about 1790 until 1837. In the former year the lot on the Old Church Road, now a part of "Rural Hill," at Accomac, on which "the meeting house" stood, was sold, and in the latter year the church there was reorganized under the East Hanover Presbytery and named "Makemie." This church was one of those occupied by the Federals during the War of Secession.

In 1846 the Holmes Presbyterian Church was organized at Bay View, in Northampton.

In addition to the foregoing Presbyterian churches, that denomination now has houses of worship at Onancock, Daughtery, Wachapreague, Belle Haven and Cape Charles.

Universalist—At least during the 1840s this denomination had a church in Accomack County, but its location is now unknown. Among the marriage reports in the Clerk's Office is one by G. L. Lumsden, "pastor of the Universalist Church in Accomack County." The marriage was performed in 1846. Mention of it is also made in the 1850 census reports.

Roman Catholic—The first church of this denomination on the Virginia Eastern Shore was St. Charles, at Cape Charles, erected in 1889, the gift of the A. S. Abell family, long publishers of the *Baltimore Sun*. One of the members of that family is said to have been a native of Northampton. The parish embraced the entire Virginia Eastern Shore and extended into southern Eastern Shore of Maryland. Its first priest was Reverend Edward Mickle (later honored by the Pope with the title of monsignor), who served the parish continuously until his death in 1930. In 1949 St. Peter's Chapel was built at a cost of \$25,000. It is located at Onley.

Other Sects—In 1916 the Pilgrim Holiness Church organized in Accomack, and their congregations worship at Grotons, Bloxom, Saxis, Quinby and Exmore.

The Church of God holds services at Chincoteague and at Birds Nest, and Assembly of God at Parksley, the Christian Sanctified Holiness at Chincoteague and Sign Post, the Christian Science Society at Parksley, and Jehovah's Witness near Exmore.

Colored Churches—Though there were in 1860, according to the Federal census, 4,380 free colored people living on the Virginia Eastern Shore—and there were 8,379 slaves—the writer has discovered nothing to indicate that there then was in either Accomack or Northampton a church of any denomination exclusively for Negroes. It seems probable that they worshiped at the churches for the whites, using the balconies, as did the slaves.

After the Civil War was over the Negroes—in many instances with the co-operation of white Methodists and Baptists—set up their own churches, to be served by ministers of their race.

The writer has heard of no colored churches of any denomination on the Virginia Eastern Shore except Methodist and Baptist, and these are in many communities. An effort to obtain the number of each denomination has been unsuccessful.

6. EDUCATION

Public education, as we now know it, virtually was non-existent on the Virginia Eastern Shore during the first three-quarters of the nineteenth century. Such public schools as there were seem to have been open only to the children of parents who were too poor to provide tutors or to send them to a private school. According to the Federal census of 1850 there were in Accomack 27 public schools with 27 teachers and 1,260 pupils. The income for the support of these schools was \$3,676, of which only \$1,031 came from public funds. The source of the remainder is not indicated. In Northampton there were thirteen of such schools, with thirteen teachers and 622 pupils. For the support of these schools \$4,500 came from taxes and \$315 from other sources. The results of such a small expenditure obviously were school terms of only a few months in each year. Illiteracy among adults was high. Thirteen hundred and seven of the 9,608 whites in Accomack could not read or write. Of the free colored of 2,143, 833 were equally illiterate. In Northampton of a white population of 3,105 there were 252 who could neither read nor write. No free colored is listed.

The public school system in Virginia began with the adoption of the so-called Underwood constitution in 1868. Yet the system did not meet with general favor on the Eastern Shore for almost a generation. The terms were short, the teachers few and of course poorly paid, and those who were financially able continued to employ private tutors or to send their children to private schools. The missionary work of such stalwarts as school superintendents Wilkins and Tankard in Northampton and Weaver, Mapp and Joynes in Accomack and other public-education-minded citizens finally popularized the public schools and resulted in the establishment of high schools in both counties during the early years of this century. Soon almost every community was demanding similar advantages for its children and for another generation new high school buildings continued to be erected. During the last decade, with the construction of modern highways in every section of the peninsula, there have been numerous consolidations of elementary schools as well as of some high schools, the pupils being transported to and from the centrally located schools by buses operated by the boards of education.

The high schools in both counties are operated under a five-year program, and besides the usual courses found in the average high school, vocational work, such as commercial, agricultural, industrial and home economics, is offered.

The statistical data following may be of interest.

Enrollment 1948-49	Accomack	Northampton
High school—white	916	
Elementary—white	2,181	
High and elementary—white		1,188
High school—colored	540	
Elementary—colored	2,017	
High and elementary—colored		2,081
Number of white high schools	8	2
Number of colored high schools	1	1
Number of white elementary schools	7	3
Number of colored elementary schools	24	11
Number of brick buildings	9	8
Value of school property	\$1,165,021.86	\$821,000.
Value of school buses	64,393.86	55,569.

The Virginia Eastern Shore's most notable private school was Margaret Academy, located at Bobtown, about two miles north of Pungoteague on the bayside or "old stage" road. Chartered by the Virginia General Assembly in 1786, it was opened, in 1807, under the auspices of a board of trustees composed of leading citizens of both counties. Prior to the War Between the States it was attended by the sons of many of the Shore's wealthiest and most prominent citizens. Henry A. Wise, later congressman and governor, received his preparatory education there. During the earlier years of its existence at least, its teachers seem to have come from or been educated in the North.²⁹ Just before the beginning of the Civil War it was operated as a military school, with the late Joseph H. Hebard, a graduate of Virginia Military Institute, as assistant principal.³⁰ During the War of Secession it was used first by the local militia and after the invasion by the Federals by their troops. After repairs had been made, the school was reopened sometime after the close of the war. Declining attendance caused the trustees to seek authority of the Virginia legislature to sell the property and erect a school elsewhere. In 1893 the trustees purchased the one time Atlantic Female College property at Onancock and the new Margaret Academy was opened under Professor Frank P. Brent (later Assistant State Superintendent of Public Instruction) and a competent staff. The school prospered until the coming of the high schools in various parts of the Shore. In 1918 the property was sold to the Onancock Public School District, and it is now the location of the Onancock High School. The \$12,000 received for the 13-acre tract and buildings are still controlled by a self-perpetuating board of trustees, with authority to use the interest therefrom for "the support, maintenance and operation of such schools, libraries, hospitals and institutions operated for the benefit of the general public of Accomack and Northampton counties . . ." In 1949 the trustees donated \$900 to the Northampton-Accomack Memorial Hospital to be used in connection with the new X-ray room.

In 1859 "the cause of female education had now so deeply interested the Association and the Baptists generally on the Eastern Shore that they resolved to establish an institution of high order for the education of their daughters. The Atlantic Female College was begun under the management of Reverend J. H. Phillips as principal, assisted by a corps of competent teachers. The college was located on a beautiful site in the lovely village of Onancock, and entered upon its

career under very flattering circumstances, receiving a large patronage during the war and for a year or two afterward, but finally went down. . . ."³¹

An academy was operated at Locustville during and for a number of years after the Civil War—for girls according to tradition—but when it was founded and when it was discontinued, we have no information. In the Public and Private Correspondence of B. F. Butler (U. S. Army major-general during the War Between the States) is a letter to Miss Elizabeth Graves, the principal. The late John W. Edmonds, founder of the *Peninsula Enterprise*, at one time taught there.

There was a flourishing private school in the Pungoteague-Hacks Neck community called "Pungoteague Academy" from 1895 to 1902. It was discontinued when Pungoteague was given a four-year high school.

Citizens of the Virginia Eastern Shore have profited during three centuries as a result of bequests of those who loved the section and wished to further the knowledge of its people. The fund derived from the rental and sale of more than three thousand acres of land in upper Accomack bequeathed, in 1710, by Samuel Sandford, a one time member of the Virginia House of Burgesses from Accomack, "for the better learning and education of the poor children living in the upper part of Accomack County," was not exhausted until about the beginning of the twentieth century. After the establishment of the public schools the income from the remainder of the fund was divided among the Islands, Atlantic and Metompkin school districts.

In 1818 Charles S. Piper bequeathed a 75-acre tract at Horntown, in trust, "for the educating of poor children who may be orphans living and residing within five miles of Horntown" and a portion of this fund is yet intact.³² The income goes to the support of schools in Atlantic school district.

The latest and by far the largest bequest for the education of Eastern Shoremen was that of the late Mrs. Evelyn Bayly Tiffany of Baltimore and "Mount Custis" (on Parker's Creek, north of Accomack C. H.). In her will, probated in 1929, she left the major part of her estate to the University of Virginia. There was a specific bequest of \$100,000 "for the erection of a fire proof hall or building where pictures and other objects of value may be kept." She requested that it be called the "Thomas H. Bayly Memorial Building," in honor of her father, an alumnus of the university. To be placed in this hall, she bequeathed her Lowestoft china, the Custis and Bayly china, and several portraits in oil, including one of General Washington, by Charles Wilson Peale;³³ of Tabitha Scarborough, wife of General John Custis, by Sir Peter Lily; of John Fitzhugh May, by Sully; of Henry Custis, by Hersillus; and of Thomas H. Bayly and his wife, by Healy.

After bequests to relatives and friends and to Peabody Institute in Baltimore, she gave the remainder of her estate to the University of Virginia, the income from which to provide fellowships in the academic, law and medical schools to persons from the Eastern Shore of Virginia preferably or to those from other parts of Virginia, and Maryland, when not used in full by students from Northampton and Accomack. The principal of the Bayly-Tiffany scholarship fund is \$242,696.20. The value of each scholarship is \$300 per annum; they became available the session of 1930-31. An applicant from Accomack or Northampton to be considered for such a scholarship must have graduated in the upper half of his high school class; if from other parts of Virginia or from Maryland in the upper quarter. In every instance ample evidence of financial need is required.³⁴

Mrs. Tiffany was an only child of Judge Thomas H. Bayly of "Mount Custis" and his wife who was the former Miss Evelyn Fitzhugh May of Petersburg. She

was born in Washington, D. C., while her father was a member of the United States House of Representatives. Judge Bayly died in 1857, when she was five years of age, and her mother later married Judge John Perkins of Louisiana, a wealthy planter, a lawyer and a member of Congress. For several years the future Mrs. Tiffany lived at the beautiful Hapaka plantation in Louisiana. During the War Between the States the Confederate Government sent Judge Perkins to Europe to enlist aid for the Southern cause. For eight years after hostilities ceased Judge Perkins, his wife and step-daughter lived abroad. Returning in 1873, they spent the summer at the Perkins cottage at White Sulphur Springs, and it was there that she met Dr. Louis McLane Tiffany, the noted surgeon and professor of operative surgery at the University of Maryland for many years. They spent a part of each spring and fall at "Mount Custis" for a score or more of years following his retirement. Dr. Tiffany died at "Mount Custis."

"Mrs. Tiffany³⁵ was a woman of great charm and beauty. Her beautiful Tintian hair and her quick wit won for her an enviable place among the socialites of France, Switzerland and Austria during the Perkins's sojourn abroad.

"Although quite a cosmopolitan, she loved Virginia best of all, as evidenced by her generosity to Virginians and her selection of "Mount Custis" as her burial place. She died in Baltimore in 1929."

Many years before her death, Mrs. Tiffany purchased the former Baptist Church building at Accomac—it was to be replaced with the present brick edifice—and had it moved and converted into an auditorium in connection with the Accomac High School. In her will she bequeathed a sum to the Accomac School Board for its upkeep.

7. AGRICULTURE

Changing conditions have had much to do with relegating first one crop and then another from its foremost position on the Virginia Eastern Shore. It appears that during much of the colonial period tobacco was the Shore's most widely grown commodity. When the virgin soil in other areas began producing the weed much more economically, it was gradually discontinued by our forefathers. Corn predominated, with oats second, until steamboat and railroad transportation made it very convenient to reach the great markets with immense quantities of sweet and Irish potatoes. Oats virtually disappeared before the end of the nineteenth century, and corn production dropped from more than a million bushels in 1860 to slightly more than six hundred thousand bushels in 1890. During the same period sweet potato production increased from about three hundred thousand bushels to nearly one million, four hundred thousand bushels, and Irish from about 63,000 bushels to more than 280,000 bushels. (It was in 1890 that the first census after the coming of the railroad to the Virginia Eastern Shore was taken). When, in recent years, the Eastern Shore lost many of its markets for the tubers to sections that previously had not grown them commercially, areas that either were more conveniently located with respect to the great industrial centers or could produce bountiful crops without the use of costly commercial fertilizers, the Shore growers turned their attention to a greater extent than theretofore to tomatoes, beans and other perishable crops that, by means of motor trucks, could be delivered to the eastern markets the morning after harvesting or could be processed within a few miles of the fields where grown.

There is now little information available as to what were the chief agricultural crops on the Virginia Eastern Shore during the first half of the nineteenth century.

The last reference to tobacco, seen by this writer, is in the Virginia Code of 1819, when the tobacco warehouses at "Pitts Landing, on Pocomoke River; at Guilford, and at Pungoteague, under one inspection; and at Nassawadox and at Cherryston, in Northampton County, under one inspection." This seems to indicate that very little tobacco was then being produced on the Virginia Eastern Shore.

Martin's *Gazetteer of Virginia and the District of Columbia* (1835) states that "Indian corn and oats are Northampton County's principal crops. . . . The soil is so easily cultivated that . . . on the best farms a hundred barrels to the hand is often obtained." Of the soil in Accomack, it says: "It produces well wheat, corn, cotton, oats, etc., and beans, potatoes and other vegetables in great abundance."

It is not until the Federal census of 1840 that we have further information as to the Virginia Eastern Shore's agricultural production. No tobacco is listed in Northampton and only 104 pounds in Accomack. Both counties grew a little cotton: Northampton 11,808 pounds, and Accomack 4,251 pounds. Accomack produced 453,157 bushels of oats and Northampton 197,058. Accomack grew 642,682 bushels of corn, and Northampton 296,718. There is no mention of sweet or Irish potatoes until 1850, when Accomack produced 143,977 bushels of sweet and 20,866 bushels of Irish potatoes, while Northampton reported 44,189 of the former and 4,665 of the latter.

With the organization in 1900 of the Eastern Shore of Virginia Produce Exchange, farmers' co-operative marketing organization, and its successful operation, new markets for Eastern Shore's Irish and sweet potatoes were opened in scores and scores of cities in the eastern half of the United States, as well as in Canada and Cuba. The result was an enormous increase in acreage planted to Irish potatoes and a most substantial increase in acreage in sweets. In 1899 Accomack planted 4,067 acres in Irish potatoes. Twenty years later its acreage in that crop was 30,611, and in 1924 it had been increased to 35,611 acres. In Northampton in 1899, 7,408 acres were planted to Irish potatoes; in 1919 there were 22,656 acres in that crop, and in 1924 it reached 33,434 acres. In 1899 Accomack planted 7,477 acres in sweet potatoes, in 1919 18,835 acres, while in 1924 the acreage in sweets had dropped to 14,749 acres, though in 1929 the acreage had gone back to 17,866 acres. The United States census figures show a decline at each of the five year reporting periods since and in 1944 (the latest report available at the time this is written) the acreage in sweets in Accomack was only 8,904, slightly less than 1,500 acres more than in 1899. In Northampton in 1899 1,815 acres were planted in sweet potatoes; in 1919 there were 4,848 acres to that crop; in 1924 it had dropped back to 2,574; it went up to 2,914 in 1929; went back to 1,934 in 1939 and went up to 2,134 in 1944.

According to Mr. Clifford Sims, Agricultural Statistician, Virginia Co-operative Crop Reporting Service of the Virginia Department of Agriculture, who very courteously supplied the figures shown in the preceeding paragraph, it was estimated that there would be planted on the Virginia Eastern Shore in 1949 23,800 acres in Irish potatoes, "the smallest in the 31 years for which records have been kept." Mr. Sims adds that the acreage in sweet potatoes on the Shore in 1948 was just about what it was in 1899.

The production of corn on the Virginia Eastern Shore which had declined from 1860 to 1890, in 1900 showed an increase over the previous census period and in 1910 had surpassed the 1860 production. In the 1930 census it is shown that in Accomack 1,079,377 bushels of corn were produced; in Northampton 551,530. Acreage (but not production) figures supplied by Mr. Sims show a decrease in acreage in corn each five years since, and it is supposed that there has been a decrease in production also. In 1899 there were in corn in Accomack 40,143 acres, while in 1944 there were 22,466. In the former year Northampton had an acreage of 16,007 in corn, while in 1944 the total was 11,415 acres. (On the Virginia Eastern Shore probably 75% of the corn produced is a second crop on land from which the early crop of Irish potatoes had been harvested the same year.)

It is probably not an exaggeration to say that the first quarter of the twentieth century was the "Golden Age" of Eastern Shore agriculture, due largely to the year-after-year success of the Eastern Shore of Virginia Produce Exchange in getting the growers to improve the grading and of its sales department in disposing of large crops of Irish and sweet potatoes at usually profitable prices, but just as too much champagne results in a bad headache the next morning, too much prosperity was the undoing of many, the farmers in particular. The high prices caused many a farmer to over expand and all too often he lost his original holdings as well as his new purchases. Farm land values generally were highly inflated and it was not infrequent that land was sold at prices at which a reasonable return on the investment could hardly be expected except under the most favorable circumstances. According to the United States census of 1920 (1919 production), the total value of all crops in Accomack County was \$17,700,402, and Northampton's \$10,388,369. In 1920, because of a small carry-over of the 1919 fall crop of Irish potatoes throughout the United States, and a short crop of early Irish potatoes in Florida and the Carolinas, Virginia Eastern Shore's Irish potatoes sold at abnormally high prices for much of the season. That season the Eastern Shore of Virginia Produce Exchange did not sell a car of United States No. 1 potatoes for less than \$10 a barrel, f.o.b. loading point, until July 10th, and many, many cars brought as much as \$11 and \$12 a barrel. That year the Exchange handled 2,937,784 packages of produce for which it received \$19,269,890.61. Of the number of packages 1,929,220 were Irish potatoes, all but 134,466 (chiefly culls and numbers twos) were sold f.o.b. loading point.

While strawberries have been grown commercially on the Virginia Eastern Shore since the 1880s, they are first shown in the United States census reports of 1900, when Accomack had 1,491 acres and Northampton 149. There was a decline shown in each census thereafter until 1930, when Accomack's acreage had increased from 682 in 1920 to 3,970 in 1930, and Northampton's from 21 to 697. In Accomack each five year period since has shown a decline in acreage (according to census figures supplied by Mr. Sims) except 1944, when there were 1,100 in these berries. In Northampton the 1934 figures show 1,082 acres, in 1939, 1,630 acres, but in 1944 a decline to 618 acres. "The 1949 acreage shows an increase, we are informed, but we do not have the figures."

Onions, grown commercially for many years chiefly in Accomack, in particular in the Prospect Neck section, were planted to 749 acres in the upper county in 1924. The acreage declined during each five year period and the estimated number for 1949 was 300.

Virginia Eastern Shore's cabbage acreage always has been variable, usually fewer than two hundred acres in Accomack, which, however, in 1934 went to 398

and dropped to 105 in 1944. Northampton had a progressive increase each five year period from 1919, when there were 570 acres, to 1934, when 1,806 acres were planted. In 1939 the number was 1,592 and in 1944 1,020 acres.

Crops that were virtually unknown commercially to the Virginia Eastern Shore in the era when the Irish potato was king are now produced on this peninsula in increasing volume. In 1919 there were only 373 acres in tomatoes in Accomack and 29 in Northampton. In 1944 there were 5,906 in the upper county and 6,184 in the lower. In the former year one acre in snap beans in Accomack and three in Northampton are recorded in the census reports, while in 1944 there were 3,412 in Accomack and 3,265 in Northampton. Green peppers have made their entry during the last year or so and in 1948 there were 1,600 acres. Soy beans are first shown in the census reports for Accomack in 1929 with 356 acres—in Northampton 43—and in 1944 the acreage had been increased to 4,472 in Accomack and 385 in Northampton. "The acreage in the two counties, especially Accomack, has increased more since 1944," says Mr. Sims. In 1945 5,355 acres were planted to lima beans, probably three-fourths of which were for canning purposes, as were virtually all of the green peas, of which there were 790 acres in Northampton and 173 in Accomack in 1944.

"The canning of tomatoes, peas and snap beans has expanded considerably on the Shore in the past ten or fifteen years. I doubt that the canning of sweet potatoes has increased any. However, tomato canners operating on the Shore use only a small percentage of the tomatoes and beans produced for canning purposes. Most of them are sold to canners in Baltimore, Eastern Shore of Maryland and New Jersey. Some of the production of these (peas and snap beans) is purchased by the J. H. Dulaney quick freezing plant at Exmore. . . . We estimate that the total acreage now planted to truck crops is as great as the total acreage planted to Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, cabbage, onions and strawberries in 1920. . . ." wrote Mr. W. Hardy Taylor, secretary-treasurer of the Eastern Shore of Virginia Produce Exchange, in 1949.

(The principal canneries on the Virginia Eastern Shore are the G. L. Webster Co., at Cheriton, one of the larger in the East, James & James at Kendall Grove, Eastern Shore Canning Company at Machipongo, Northampton Canning Company at Nassawadox, John W. Taylor Packing Company at Hallwood, and H. E. Kelly at New Church. John H. Dulaney & Son are processors of frozen foods at Exmore.)

The poultry industry on the Virginia Eastern Shore has had a phenomenal growth during the last dozen years, due chiefly to the large broiler industry which has been developed, principally on Chincoteague Island. In 1934 the census figures show 555,548 raised in Accomack and 108,299 in Northampton, while five years later the number in Accomack had increased to 2,745,436 and in Northampton, 135,366. The report for 1944 shows 5,745,420 grown in Accomack and 233,083 in Northampton. The production of turkeys increased from 2,272 in Accomack in 1934 to 35,425 in 1944, and in Northampton from 888 in the former year and 4,979 in the latter.

It may be of interest to state that in 1840 there were more than four times as many cattle on the Shore as in 1930 and about three times as many hogs. According to the census of the former year there were in Accomack 13,376 neat cattle and 26,549 hogs; in Northampton there were 4,574 cattle and 12,269 hogs. The corresponding figures in the 1930 census are 3,361 and 7,991 in Accomack and 1,053 and 5,347 in Northampton.

Cord wood was produced in commercial quantities in both counties, according to the 1840 census: 2,887 in Accomack and 45,120 in Northampton.

In Accomack salt was produced commercially, according to the foregoing census, to the extent of 4,598 bushels.

During the present decade approximately seventy-five per cent of the merchantable timber on the Virginia Eastern Shore has been cut, probably half of it for pulpwood for shipment (made on giant barges loaded at Harborton, Onancock Creek and elsewhere) to a pulp factory at West Point, Virginia. In previous years the consumption seems not to have exceeded the production of timber. Only minor reforestation is being done. In the days of sailing vessels ship builders from as far as Maine came to the Eastern Shore for ship material.³⁶

As an aid to agricultural production, in 1913 there was established as a subdivision of the Virginia Truck Experiment Station, on a 23-acre tract of leased land at Tasley, the Eastern Shore Experiment Station. In 1917 it was moved to its present location near Onley.

8. SEAFOOD

The catching, production and marketing of seafood by the citizens of the Virginia Eastern Shore have been of major commercial consequence for more than a century. Virginia, with the view of protecting the interests of its residents engaged in these pursuits, long ago enacted legislation prohibiting non-residents from taking or engaging in catching oysters, clams, crabs or fish from any waters under its jurisdiction. The somewhat uncertain boundary line between Maryland and Virginia over the waters of the Chesapeake Bay has resulted in occasional clashes between citizens and police officers of these states.

Until the 1890s the natural beds or rocks in the Chesapeake and many of its tributaries abounded in oysters, and vast numbers of residents of the Virginia Eastern Shore were engaged in obtaining them, in the deeper waters by dredging or scraping, and where the waters were shallow the oysters were brought up by means of tongs. The deep water natural rocks were so depleted by the beginning of the twentieth century that the dredging of oysters was virtually abandoned. While the shallow water natural beds, particularly on the Atlantic side, continue to yield a limited quantity of oysters, far more are obtained from private culture on rented grounds. This is equally true as to clams.

The spring-summer-fall pound net fishery, so prevalent along the bayshores of Accomack and Northampton during the later years of the nineteenth century are seldom seen; the number put down only during the spring and fall has decreased, and even on the oceanside the pound net fisheries have undoubtedly passed their prime. The activities of trawlers dragging offshore have increased appreciably in the last two decades. The catching efficiency and economic competition by these trawlers seem to be forcing most of the pound net activities out of business.³⁷

The reports of the Department of Fish and Wildlife of the United States Department of the Interior for the years 1920 and 1945 reveal some marked differences in quantity of seafood produced on the Virginia Eastern Shore.

In 1920 the catch of edible fish in Accomack totaled 10,133,608 pounds, while in 1945 there were 4,380,300 pounds. In Northampton during the same years

there were 4,596,176 and 4,543,400, respectively. Shellfish, however, showed an increase in Accomack in 1945 over 1920.

	<i>Accomack</i>		<i>Northampton</i>	
	1920 (Pounds)	1945	1920 (Pounds)	1945
Crabs				
Hard	776,475	4,031,000	664,151	506,400
Soft and peelers	944,807	829,800	19,862	189,900
Clams (hard)*	325,176		72,472	
Public		174,200		154,800
Private		202,200		75,000
Oysters*				
Public	1,340,143	352,800	498,000	6,500
Private	2,138,997	4,167,100	1,457,631	1,227,100

*Pounds in terms of meat.

In Accomack in 1920 41,280,950 pounds of menhaden were caught; in 1945 26,000; in Northampton during the same periods 12,025,500 and 600,000 pounds respectively.

From 1880 to 1930 commercial interests were extensively engaged in catching menhaden for the extraction of oil and the manufacture of fertilizer and other products. They employed fleets of steamers—and before 1900 schooners and other sailing craft as well—and large crews to surround immense “schools” of these fat and minutely bony fish with purse nets. The first of these plants of which we have any information was at Cedar Island. In 1884 another such, on an extensive scale, was opened at Harborton and was continued until the beginning of World War I when its fleet was sold for government purposes. Another was operated for a number of years around the turn of the century at Sandy Island, near the town of Cape Charles, and during the 1920s another on a large scale was in the Chincoteague-Assateague section.

9. TRANSPORTATION

From its first settlement until nearly the end of the nineteenth century virtually all commodities from and to the Virginia Eastern Shore moved by water.

Sailing Craft—Privately-owned and usually non-scheduled sailing vessels³⁸ had nearly a monopoly in transportation to and from the Virginia Eastern Shore until in the 1870s and continued to be an important factor even in the 1890s. Their home ports were on almost every creek—where many of them were built—and they traded not only between points on the Chesapeake and its tributaries and coastwise from Boston to Florida, but went as far as Bermuda, Cuba and even to the Lesser Antilles. From creeks on the Chesapeake side the domestic trade was chiefly with Baltimore and Norfolk, the former predominating, while commerce on the seaside was largely with Philadelphia and New York. As late as the 1890s, large schooners, operating on regular schedules, competed with steamboats for the transportation to Baltimore of sweet and Irish potatoes and other farm products from Nandua, Pungoteague, Onancock and other creeks.

Ferry Service—Authorization of ferry service, by means of sailing craft called packets,³⁹ between the Eastern Shore and York, Hampton and Norfolk, is mentioned in the acts of the Virginia General Assembly from as early as 1705 to as late as 1844. Until 1813 these ferries operated only from Northampton—some times

from Hungars Creek, and at other times from King's Creek. In the latter year an act was passed authorizing Henry Parker to operate such a service between his farm on Pungoteague Creek ("Locust Grove," in Yeo's Neck), and York, Hampton and Norfolk, and in his will, probated in 1819, he bequeathed the franchise and the packets *Accomack* and *Norfolk*, to his son George West ("Agnes") Parker. The boats from Accomack were not permitted to sail from or land at any creek in Northampton, save in the event of storm, while John Bowdoin, who operated from Hungars Creek, was prohibited from doing business in Accomack.

In 1832 the Virginia General Assembly gave Samuel C. White authority to operate a ferry between Onancock and Norfolk, sailing for Norfolk every Tuesday and from Norfolk every Friday, weather permitting. In 1838 the franchise was transferred to Thomas Underhill, and he was granted permission to operate from Pungoteague Creek "in consequence of the great difficulty which frequently arises in making an entrance at the mouth of the creek leading to Onancock town . . . account of the bar in the harbor." In an act of the Legislature in 1842, it is stated that Underhill had discontinued the ferry, had no intention of reviving it, and in consequence Lewis L. Snead and Nathaniel Topping were authorized to operate it from "the lands of John W. Hutchinson or the lands of Thomas Underhill⁴⁰ on Pungoteague Creek, as may best suit the convenience of the parties aforesaid." Snead and Topping were required to operate only one boat, unless the County Court should order a second one. In 1844 Snead and Topping were authorized to transfer their franchise to George S. Mapp, James H. Harrison and John H. Chandler. When they discontinued the service or the names of their successors, if any, has not been ascertained.

In January, 1822, the General Assembly of Virginia authorized John K. Floyd to establish a ferry service from "his lands on Kings Creek, in Northampton County, to the towns of Norfolk, Hampton and York and to the East River in the county of Matthews." The act provided also that the ferries from Hungars Creek and from Pungoteague Creek "shall likewise have the privilege of running to East River."

In both the Virginia codes of 1849 and 1860 it is recited that "ferries shall continue as heretofore established between the counties of Accomack and Northampton to the towns of Norfolk, Hampton and York." The writer has discovered no information as to when these ferries were discontinued.

Steamboat Service—When steamboat service between the Virginia Eastern Shore and other Chesapeake Bay points was first inaugurated is uncertain. During the summer of 1849 the *Baltimore Sun* carried advertisements of the "new steamer *Hugh Jenkins*, Captain J. D. Turner . . . for Whitehaven (Maryland) and Pungoteague (Virginia)," sailing from Baltimore every Friday at six o'clock a. m., and leaving Pungoteague (creek) at six o'clock a. m. on Saturday. "Carriages will be in readiness to take passengers to Snow Hill. . . . Freight taken to all the above places at low rates." The steamer *Monmouth*, making trips to the Virginia Eastern Shore in 1850,⁴¹ seems to have had weekly sailings from Baltimore for "Pongoteague, Accomack County, East River, Matthews County, Yorktown, Gloucester Point and all intermediate landings on the York River as far up as Walkerton, King and Queen County, Virginia," returning the same route, according to frequent advertisements in the *Baltimore Sun* during the years 1852, 1853 and 1854. Departure from Baltimore was Monday at 4:00 p. m.; from Walkerton at noon on Wednesday, arriving in Baltimore Friday at 6:00 a. m.

During the years 1855 and 1856 the Baltimore and West Point Line advertised

in the same paper service by the steamer *Gladiator* between Baltimore, Pungoteague, East, North, York and Mattaponi rivers.

The steamer *Wilson Small* was operated between Baltimore and the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia points during the late 1850s and early 1860s. In an advertisement⁴² of a farm in upper Accomack, it was stated that persons wishing to inspect the farm could "take the steamer *Wilson Small* from Baltimore any Wednesday at 8:00 p. m. for Pitts Wharf," on Pocomoke River. This steamer came south at least as far as Pungoteague Creek.

The blockading of the Virginia waters of the Chesapeake Bay during the early years of the War Between the States resulted in the discontinuance of steamboat service between the Virginia Eastern Shore and Baltimore until in 1863. During the spring and summer of that year the *Baltimore American and Commercial Advertiser* carried advertisements of steamboat service between the Monumental City and the Eastern Shore by the steamer *Massachusetts*. She sailed "from the foot of South Street every Monday at 6:00 p. m. for Snow Hill, Newtown (now Pocomoke City), and landings on Pocomoke River, stopping at Annessex, Maryland, and Chesconesic, Virginia, and Point Lookout, Maryland, going and returning, arriving in Baltimore early Thursday morning. . . . Freight received . . . as per government regulations. . . . Coaches will connect with boat landings to take passengers to Drummondtown (now Accomac) or other parts of Accomack and Northampton counties, Virginia, Berlin, Princess Anne and Salisbury. . . . The *Massachusetts* has been fitted up for the above routes at great expense, having elegant staterooms and berth accommodations for passengers, and it is one of the safest, cleanly, neat and comfortable boats that runs on the Chesapeake Bay. Her accommodations are unsurpassed." How long this service was continued is unknown.

It seems likely that the next steamer plying between Baltimore and the Eastern Shore of Virginia was the *Cambridge*, which touched at Onancock and Pocomoke river points.⁴³

During 1867 the *Baltimore Sun* carried advertisements of a service by the steamer *Massachusetts*, Captain William F. Veasey, master, "every Tuesday and Friday evening at eight o'clock for Crisfield (connecting with the Annessex & Delaware Railroad), Chesconnessex, Pitts Wharf, Rehoboth and Newtown. Returning will leave Newtown every Monday and Thursday morning at six o'clock. . . . Fare to Crisfield \$3; to Newtown \$4. For colored passengers \$2.50. Meals and staterooms extra. Freight received on day of sailing."

It seems probable that it was in 1868 that the *Sue*, built by the Harlan & Hollingsworth Company, Wilmington, Delaware, "through the efforts of Mr. Frank Jones and Captain Veasey," began operating between Baltimore and the Virginia Eastern Shore points. She "ran . . . to Pungoteague and Cherrystone, one trip a week; the other trip she ran to Pocomoke River . . ."⁴⁴

Cobb Brothers, who operated a resort hotel on Cobbs Island, on the ocean side of the peninsula, in their advertisements in the *Baltimore Sun* in 1868, gave directions as to reaching the resort: ". . . by steamer *Sue* . . . direct for Cherrystone every Friday at six o'clock p. m." P. R. Clark, agent of the steamboat line, in another advertisement in *The Sun* (August 21, 1868), said in part: "The new, fast and splendid iron steamer *Sue*, Captain W. F. Veasey, will continue to make grand excursions to Cobbs Island, direct, without change. . . ."

Clark in *The Sun*, during the summers of 1870, 1871 and 1872, continued to advertise service to Cobbs Island but by steamers to Cherrystone, thence "hacks

across the peninsula and steamboat to Cobbs Island." In 1871 and 1872 he named the steamer *Helen*, with Captain George A. Raynor as master.

In *The Sun* of June 16, 1873, and of July 23, 1873, Battle Point hotel in Occohannock Neck, Northampton County, was advertised as a resort. In the former issue we read that "the steamer *Helen* will issue excursion tickets to Battle Point until September 30th. . . . Leave South Street Wharf every Wednesday and Sunday at five o'clock p. m." According to advertisements in *The Sun* in 1875 both the steamers *Helen* and *Maggie* were on that run.

There is a tradition that Nassawadox Creek also was touched by the Baltimore steamers for a short time, but the service was discontinued because of insufficient depth of water to accomodate the steamer.

Hungars Creek also was served by the Baltimore steamers for a number of years. Taylor's wharf was a stop. Older citizens of that section say that it was in 1890 or thereabouts when the service was discontinued. The Baltimore steamers went to Cherrystone only a few months after the railroad was built to Cape Charles, late in 1884.

At least as early as the beginning of the 1890s the Eastern Shore Steamboat Company was operating steamers between Baltimore and Occohannock, Nandua, Pungoteague, Onancock, Hunting and Messongo creeks and to Pocomoke River landings, some of these steamers touching Tangier and all of them Crisfield in both directions, giving the latter a six-day a week steamer service to and from Baltimore, and to almost all the other wharves at least two round trips a week.

During much of the first quarter of the twentieth century it was necessary to augment this service with additional steamers when strawberries, onions and white potatoes were ready to be marketed, and as late as the early 1920s when the harvesting of these crops was at its peak, there was daily service to Baltimore from the wharves on Occohannock, Nandua, Pungoteague and Onancock creeks. So great was the production of Irish potatoes in the various necks on the bayside that even this service, using steamers with a capacity of from 2,000 to 3,500 barrels, was unable to move the shipments with dispatch; it was not unusual for potatoes to remain on the wharves from three days to a week before being loaded.

The steamers *Helen* and *Maggie* continued to be operated between the Virginia Eastern Shore and Baltimore until the early 1890s, according to the writer's recollection. The Eastern Shore Steamboat Company and its successor, the Baltimore, Chesapeake & Atlantic Railway (which operated also certain rail lines on the Eastern Shore of Maryland) added to its fleet of steamers from time to time. Among them were the *Eastern Shore*, built in 1883, the *Pocomoke*, the *Tangier*, the *Old Point Comfort*, the *Three Rivers*, the *Maryland*, the *Virginia* and the *Pianketank*. All but the last named were side-wheelers and three deckers, carrying cargo on the first deck. On the second deck were the staterooms—about thirty—the dining room, the saloon and other passenger quarters. The pilot house and life boats and the house, enclosing the "walking beam," were on the hurricane deck. These craft, with steel or iron hulls and frame superstructures, the latter always painted white, from the 1870s to the 1920s carried virtually all the passenger traffic between the Virginia Eastern Shore and Baltimore. It has been asserted that for years the steamer *Eastern Shore* alone averaged about 300 a week except during the winter months.

Of these steamers the *Maggie* was the smallest—131-foot keel, 24-foot beam. She would carry 1,200 barrels of potatoes. The *Eastern Shore's* length was 164 feet and her beam 38 feet. The latter, with a capacity for 3,500 barrels of potatoes,

was the best known and most popular of the Baltimore-Eastern Shore steamers, and at the time she was put into service one of the most luxurious steamers plying the Chesapeake and its tributaries. After half a century of service, she was changed to a propeller driven steamer, and used only for freight traffic.

From the 1880s until about 1910 the Eastern Shore Steamboat Company and its successor operated what was termed the Pocomoke River Line, with steamers touching at Snow Hill, Pocomoke, Saxis Island, Messongo, Hunting Creek, Onan-



B C & O Steamer "Eastern Shore" at Harborton, October, 1934

cock Creek and Tangier Island, usually two round trips weekly from Baltimore; also the Occohannock River Line, with services to Harborton, Evans and Boggs wharves, on Pungoteague Creek; Cedar View and Nandua, on Nandua Creek; and to Concord, Morley's, Davis's, Read's, Shields' and Rue's wharves on Occohannock Creek, leaving Baltimore Sundays and Wednesdays at five o'clock, and laying up for the night on Mondays and Thursdays at Rue's, near Belle Haven. The return trip began early Tuesdays and Fridays, arriving in Baltimore on Wednesdays and Saturdays in time for breakfast. The same wharves were touched in each direction.

The freight and passenger traffic had become so great that about 1910 the service was enlarged and a steamer assigned to the wharves on Nandua and Occohannock creeks for two round trips a week between them and Baltimore, while there was a three-times-a-week service (from Baltimore Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays) between the Monumental City and Onancock and Pungoteague creeks. The latter was continued until the service was abandoned in 1935.

In 1932 the Baltimore, Chesapeake & Atlantic Railway, a subsidiary of the Pennsylvania Railroad, went into voluntary bankruptcy and all its steamers, which operated not only between Baltimore and Virginia Eastern Shore points but to the Eastern and Western Shores of Maryland and Virginia as well, were sold. Several Virginia Eastern Shore people organized the Baltimore, Crisfield & Onancock Line and purchased the steamers *Eastern Shore* and *Pianketank*, which were operated until 1935.

The improved highways quickened transportation. Motor trucks and private automobiles deprived the steamers of the major part of the freight and passenger

traffic which in earlier years they had carried. The result was bankruptcy and finally the discontinuance of the service in its entirety.

In 1841 the Virginia General Assembly passed a bill providing "That in the event William T. Floyd, the present proprietor of the ferry across the Chesapeake Bay between Cherrystone or Kings Creek . . . and the borough of Norfolk, shall provide or procure a steamboat to be run across said bay . . . he is hereby released of all fines and penalties . . . for not running a packet or boat across the bay twice a week." Whether he put on the run the steamer is now unknown.

The *Norfolk and Portsmouth Herald* of March 4, 1852, while carrying no advertisement of steamboat service between Norfolk and the Eastern Shore, did carry a notice that mails arrived at Norfolk from the Eastern Shore on Tuesdays and Fridays at 7 p. m., and closed for the Eastern Shore at 9 p. m. Mondays and Thursdays. In the same journal of January 1, 1853, was an advertisement of the "Steamer *Coffee*, Captain Hicks, carrying the United States mail to Old Point, Hampton, Eastern Shore and Matthews. . . . Leave Norfolk at 8:00 a. m. for the Eastern Shore, Hampton and Old Point, returning the same route in the evening." The service to the Eastern Shore was on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, and to Matthews on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Some time after the Federal Army invaded and occupied the Virginia Eastern Shore (November, 1861), the United States Government began operating a steamer between Cherrystone and Fort Monroe and it was continued throughout the war.

The *Baltimore Sun* of July 22, 1865, in a dispatch from Fort Monroe, dated two days earlier, stated that the "steamer *Mattano* commenced today to ply between Norfolk, Old Point, Yorktown and Cherrystone, making daily trips each way. This is a private enterprise." The name of the operators was not stated.

The Old Bay Line had the following advertisement in *The Sun* of January 10, 1866:

"The new and fast steamer, *Eolus* . . . leaves Norfolk every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning at 6½ o'clock for Cherrystone and the Eastern Shore of Virginia. This service, with the same steamer and later the steamer *N. P. Banks*, was advertised in the Baltimore papers as late as 1875. When it was discontinued is unknown. Later, and at the time the N. Y., P. & N. railroad was completed through the Virginia peninsula, the Old Dominion Line operated steamer service between Norfolk and Cherrystone—perhaps to other points on the Eastern Shore—as a feeder for its freight and passenger steamers between Norfolk and New York, according to the recollection of some of the Eastern Shore's older citizens. This line had two paddle-wheel steamers, the *Accomac* (136.8 feet long, 25-foot beam) and the *Northampton* (166.5 feet long, 28.4-foot beam) and one—possibly both, at different times—ran to Cherrystone. The service seems to have been discontinued in 1885.

Mention of steamer service between Cape Charles and Norfolk after the completion of the railroad will be made in later paragraphs.

In the newspapers of the 1890s are occasional references to the inauguration of steamer service between bayside points and Washington, D. C., but if or how long such steamers were operated is now unknown.

In 1883 the steamer *Tuckaboe* ran from Wachapreague (then Powellton) to New York, carrying passengers and freight, making weekly trips. This operated for only a few years.

In 1933 the Richmond-Eastern Shore Ferry Company (organized by Charles

W. Harrison and associates) began the operation of a large ferry steamer, the *Hercules* (earlier on the run between Cape Charles and the Ocean View section), carrying passengers, automobiles and trucks between Deltaville, in Middlesex County, and Harborton, with two round trips daily. She was too slow for such a schedule, and, after she was burned, while tied up at Deltaville during a tropical storm, was replaced with a faster though smaller steamer, the *Chelsea*. The latter's size did not stimulate confidence in her for rough weather crossings in winter, and lack of sufficient patronage caused the discontinuance of the line after less than two years of operation. Her capacity was 30 cars.

Stages—Little information has been found about the stage lines through the Eastern Shore. It is known that a stage line that carried mail—and supposedly passengers—was operated between Horntown, in Accomack County, to Eastville, in Northampton, for many years prior to the coming of the New York, Philadelphia & Norfolk Railroad. No information is available as to when it started. There was a daily service in each direction, leaving Horntown and Eastville, respectively, about 6:30 a. m., reaching destination about twelve hours later. "Stops were made at Atlantic, Temperanceville, Mapps ville, Modest Town, Newtown, Drummond town, Onancock, Pungoteague, Belle Haven, Franktown, Bridgetown and Eastville, where the night was spent. The following morning it continued to Kings Creek, where it connected with a packet for Norfolk. . . . There was a mail route from Horntown to New Church, Oak Hall, Jenkins Bridge, Messongo, Guilford, Woodstock (now Leemont) and to Onancock."⁴⁵

Railroads—The General Assembly of Virginia, in 1836, granted to James Barron, Severn E. Parker, Walter Gwynn, Mordecai Cook, William H. Thompson, Richard F. Stockton, Thomas R. Joynes, John W. Murdaugh, George M. Dallas, John Hairland, John Swift, Littleton D. Teackle, William D. Waples and Southey Grinnalds a charter for a railroad to "run from some point near Cherrystone, in Northampton County, to some point in the county of Accomack on the dividing line between Virginia and Maryland, and thence, with the consent of the States through which the road shall pass, to some point on or near the Delaware River or bay, and thence to some point not above the city of Philadelphia. . . ."⁴⁶

The General Assembly of the "reorganized" State of Virginia, at Wheeling on February 8, 1862, authorized Sewell Horsey, Arthur Watson, Frederick Floyd, George Rogers, Arthur Downing, Leonard B. Nottingham, Peter Bowdoin, or any three of them, to open books at Accomack and Eastville to receive subscriptions for a railroad to run from "Cherrystone ferry, in Northampton County, to the Maryland line in the direction of Salisbury, Maryland, to be known as the Accomack and Northampton Air Line Railroad Company."

That something was being done to build the line seems apparent from the fact that there are several references to an early railroad through the counties in the Federal correspondence of the 1860s in the National Archives in Washington.⁴⁷

It was however 1884 before a railroad became a reality through Accomack and Northampton counties.

In 1860 the Eastern Shore Railroad constructed a line from Delmar to Salisbury. In 1866 it was extended to Crisfield. In 1870 the Worcester & Somerset Railroad Company built a line from Kings Creek (Peninsula Junction) to Newtown (now Pocomoke). As a result of a series of consolidations and reorganizations these became the Peninsula Railroad Company of Maryland, and by authority of the Maryland Legislature in 1880 and the Virginia General Assembly in 1882 there was a consolidation of the Peninsula Company of Maryland and the

Peninsula Company of Virginia into the New York, Philadelphia & Norfolk Railroad Company, the chief promoters of which were Colonel Thomas A. Scott, a former president of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and Mr. Alexander J. Cassatt, who not long before had resigned as first vice president of the latter company. (In 1883 Mr. Cassatt was elected a director of the Pennsylvania, serving until his death in 1906. He became president of the Pennsylvania about six years before his death).⁴⁸

It was in 1884 that the line was constructed from Pocomoke to the present town of Cape Charles, a distance of 64.10 miles. In November of that year there began the operation of through trains between New York and Philadelphia to Cape Charles, with connection by steamer for Old Point Comfort and Norfolk. The *Railroad Gazette* of November 21, 1884, reports a train leaving New York at 8:00 p. m., Philadelphia at 11:00 p. m., arriving at Cape Charles at 6:30 a. m., "the transfer from that point to Norfolk being made by boat reaching Norfolk at 9:30 a. m. For the present a chartered boat is used but when the Company's ferry is finished, cars will be transferred to Norfolk without change." While there is no further reference in the *Gazette* to the operation across the bay, the *Railroad Guide* of March, 1886, advertised for the first time through palace sleeping car arrangement between New York, Philadelphia and Portsmouth with train leaving New York at 8:00 p. m., arriving at Cape Charles at 5:30 a. m., Norfolk at 8:15 a. m. and Portsmouth at 8:50 a. m. Such service was advertised also in the April, 1886, issue, but thereafter did not appear in the *Guide*.

Mr. W. T. Travis, one of Northampton's oldest citizens, in a recent interview, stated that the sidewheel steamer *Cape Charles* (252 feet long), built especially for the service, did transport through cars between Cape Charles and Portsmouth while he was a second mate on the craft. According to Mr. Travis, during the winter months Pullmans, carrying Florida passengers, were delivered to the Seaboard Air Line at Portsmouth. He stated that before the steamer *Cape Charles* was put into service passengers were transported from Cape Charles to Old Point Comfort and Norfolk by the steamer *Jane Mosley* (200 feet long),⁴⁹ either operated by another company or chartered, he does not now remember which. Until the second decade of the twentieth century the western terminal of the railroad's passenger steamer line was Portsmouth.

The single track line from Delmar to Cape Charles was laid with 60 pound (to the yard) rails—they replaced lighter ones between Delmar and Pocomoke. As the line was run through what is virtually the center of the Virginia Eastern Shore peninsula, it touched not a single village or town between Pocomoke and Cape Charles with the possible exception of New Church, and to house the agents and their families the railroad stations were two story structures, of uniform design, at all the original stations in Virginia north of Cape Charles. The second floor was used for residence purposes, and this practice was continued for almost a quarter century.

The original stations were, according to Mr. Thomas E. Ralph, an employee since 1891 and station agent at Keller since 1896; Salisbury, Princess Anne, Peninsula Junction (Kings Creek), Pocomoke, New Church, Hallston (now Hallwood), Metompkin (now Parksley), Accomac (now Tasley), Pungoteague (now Keller), Exmore, Birds Nest, Eastville and Cape Charles. Stations were opened at Horsey (now Oak Hall), Bloomtown (now Makemie Park), Bloxom, Onley, Melfa, Mappsburg (now Painter), Nassawadox, Machipongo, Cobbs, Cheriton and Bay View before the end of the nineteenth century and at Belle Haven, Greenbush, Hopeton, Mears and LeCato (earlier Day's Siding) before 1910.

Hallston was named in honor of James Alfred Hall; Horsey for a family of that name living nearby; Bloxom for the Bloxom family thereabouts; Parksley by the developers of that town, who purchased the site from a Mr. Parks; Melfa for one of the railroad's subcontractors; Onley for the farm on Onancock Creek, the one time residence of former Governor Henry A. Wise; Keller for John Keller, who constructed a part of the railroad and who was one of its directors in the 1890s; Mappsburg for the Mapp family in the Hawks Nest community, and when changed to Painter, in honor of William and Uriah Painter, early presidents of the railroad; Exmore because of the original stations it was the tenth south of Delmar, and Birds Nest because of the great number of birds in that section.

The name of Bloomtown was changed to Makemie Park in 1908, when the heroic statue of Francis Makemie, the founder of Presbyterianism in America, was erected at his burial place on nearby Holden's Creek. When the railroad agreed to open a freight station opposite Oak Hall village, John G. Rodgers, then the railroad superintendent, selected the name LeCato, in honor of the late State Senator George W. LeCato of Wachapreague, of whom he had been an admirer.

Nassawadox is said to have been called first Upshur, and Cheriton originally was Cherrystone. Cobbs seems to have been for the well-known family in that area.

When the promoters of the New York, Philadelphia & Norfolk Railroad Company decided to make its land terminus in Northampton County, the site of what is now the town of Cape Charles was only farm and wooded lands. Three tracts, called the Kings Creek tract, the Old Plantation tract and the New Quarter tract, aggregating 2,107 acres, were purchased by William L. Scott, of Erie, Pennsylvania, from Ella W. and Sally Tazewell for \$55,000.00. Within the boundary was a small, shallow creek which, according to tradition, was largely bare at very low tide. This was dredged by the railroad company to a depth ample for its tugs, barges and steamers, and as the years went by was deepened and stone breakwaters set up under appropriations by Congress in Rivers and Harbors legislation.

At Port Norfolk, on a branch of the Elizabeth River, a terminal was constructed for the transfer of loaded and empty freight cars to and from other railroads entering the Norfolk area.

The early barges, according to tradition, were of wood construction and had a capacity for twelve cars. As the fleet was increased, the barges were larger, carrying seventeen cars; later 22 cars, and finally specially designed steel barges carrying 30 cars were put into service about the beginning of the twentieth century. The smallest of these car floats now in service is 315 x 48½ feet, and the largest (built in 1948) is 418 feet long and has a beam of 50½ feet. About four hours were required by the tugs towing these barges to make the trip between Cape Charles and Port Norfolk.

In 1929, upon the completion of extensive rail-water facilities at Little Creek in Princess Anne County, Virginia (between Ocean View and Cape Henry), the operation of the tugs and car floats was transferred from Port Norfolk thereto, reducing the distance to Cape Charles from 36 to 26½ miles.

Just how long the steamer *Cape Charles* carried Pullmans and their passengers between Cape Charles and Norfolk is undetermined. When the writer was the railroad superintendent's secretary (1903-1905) the tradition then was that the steamer *Cape Charles* too often was unwieldly in the small harbor at Cape Charles and in consequence was removed from the route. During the 1890s a side-wheeler the *Old Point Comfort* and the screw-driven *New*

York (207 feet long)⁵⁰ each made a round trip daily between Cape Charles, Old Point Comfort, Norfolk and Portsmouth, connecting at the Northampton port with both north and southbound trains. In 1900 a much larger screw-driven steamer, the *Pennsylvania* (244 feet long) replaced the *Old Point Comfort* on the run. In 1907 the railroad company built a steamer similar to the *Pennsylvania*, the *Maryland* (249 feet long), to take the place of the *New York*, used as a reserve. It was in 1928 that an even larger and faster steamer, the *Virginia Lee* (291 feet long),⁵¹ was placed on the run. This steamer had been designed to take care also of automobiles and smaller trucks between Cape Charles, Old Point Comfort and Norfolk as well as local and through passengers. During World War II she was requisitioned by the Federal Government and sent overseas. The *Elisha Lee* (303 feet long), named for a former New York, Philadelphia & Norfolk superintendent, who later was vice president and general manager of the Pennsylvania system, now takes her place.

During the first decade of the twentieth century the original sixty-pound rails were replaced with those weighing eighty pounds to the yard. Those now in use weigh 135 pounds.

The block system, for greater safety and speed in operating trains, was installed in 1908, and in 1912 the dispatching of trains by telephone instead of by telegraph was begun.

In 1910 the Cape Charles Railroad Company, a subsidiary, constructed a line from Cape Junction to Townsend and in 1912 the tracks were extended to Kiptopeke. In 1918 the Cape Charles Railroad Company was formally acquired by its parent, the New York, Philadelphia & Norfolk Railroad Company.

The New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk's original land holdings at Cape Charles, comprising 40 acres, did not extend to the south side of Cape Charles harbor. In 1904 it purchased from the Scott Estate a tract of approximately 170 acres, which embraced all the land bordering the southern shore of the harbor.

While the New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk railroad was not built nor financed by the Pennsylvania Railroad, as some times has been stated, in 1883 these companies and the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad (which includes the Delaware division, between Wilmington and Delmar) entered into an agreement that the Pennsylvania and the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore "would devote twenty per cent of the revenues from interchanged traffic to the payment of the interest on the bonds of the New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk. . . . The last named company is still a live corporation. Its capital stock was purchased by the Pennsylvania in 1908, at which time "Stock Trust Certificates" were issued in payment therefor, all of which matured in 1948 and have been paid off. The railroad was leased to the Pennsylvania for 999 years from July 1, 1920, prior to which time it was operated by its own organization."⁵²

From its beginning the New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk prospered and until in the 1930s it was reputed to be one of the most profitable divisions of the Pennsylvania system. Not only did it have an immense northbound traffic of lumber, pig iron, cotton, vegetables and other commodities through its connections at Norfolk but by the second decade of the twentieth century it had almost a transportation monopoly of the vast quantities of Irish and sweet potatoes, strawberries, cabbages, onions and seafoods (which ran into the millions of packages), lumber and mine props produced adjacent to its

line on the Virginia Eastern Shore as well as of the multitude of commodities brought to the section to meet the needs and requirements of a prosperous people. So great was the volume of freight and passengers to be handled that within the approximately seventy miles between the Maryland-Virginia boundary and the southern tip of the peninsula there were 28 railroad depots.

With the improvement in automobiles and motor trucks and the completion of modern concrete highways through the Virginia Eastern Shore and elsewhere and hard surfaced secondary roads, by 1949 the tonnage being handled by the former New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk division had so decreased that the Pennsylvania Railroad Company petitioned the Virginia State Corporation Commission for permission to abandon the stations at Oak Hall, Makemie Park, Mears, Hallwood, Bloxom, Hopeton, Melfa and Keller in Accomack County, and Wierwood, Cobbs, Bay View, Capeville, Townsend and Kiptopeke in Northampton County.

In 1931 Charles W. Harrison and associates organized a company to compete with the Pennsylvania Railroad for automobile and motor truck traffic across the lower Chesapeake Bay, establishing terminals approximately a quarter of a mile north of Cape Charles' main harbor, and near Ocean View, using the large ferry steamer *Hercules*. Though the *Hercules* was slow, an open-top steamer, motorists were attracted to the route and it was a success from the start. In 1933 the Pennsylvania or a subsidiary obtained a large block of stock in this corporation, which then or earlier was called the Virginia Ferry Corporation, and the route was changed to the railroad's terminals at Cape Charles and Little Creek. The ferry steamer *Delmarva* (260 feet long, with a beam of 59 feet), especially designed for the service, was put on the run in that year. It has a capacity for from 60 to 65 passenger cars or approximately 25 trucks. In 1936 there was built for this route a steamer of similar dimensions called the *Princess Anne*. This was the first stream-lined, modernistic ferry built in the United States. It was in 1941 that an even larger craft, the *Pocahontas*, was added, and in 1949 an LST was converted into a ferry steamer and renamed the *Northampton*, to aid in speeding up the motor traffic by this route. All these boats are radar equipped. There are fourteen scheduled and four unscheduled trips in each direction every twenty-four hours.

In 1934 the Virginia Ferry Corporation carried 51,447 automobiles and trucks and 186,957 passengers. In 1948 there were 391,123 cars and trucks and 1,147,603 passengers crossing the bay on the steamers of this company.

To quicken the service across the bay (now requiring one and three-quarter hours) and to eliminate the unavoidable delay frequently occasioned to motorists when the ferry steamers are unable to take on board all cars and trucks that are in line for a specific departure, a new terminal is being constructed at Nottingham's Beach, about six miles south of the town of Cape Charles, at a cost estimated at two millions of dollars.

In 1934 the New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk Railroad Ferry Company was incorporated, as a subsidiary of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and it took over the operation of the tugs, car floats and passenger steamers that from 1885 had been operated by the New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk Railroad Company and its successor, the Pennsylvania.

Bus Service—In 1926 the Eastern Shore Transit Company, organized by the late Hon. G. Walter Mapp of Accomac and Captain Martin Stringfellow

of Charlottesville, began operating a local bus service between Cape Charles and Salisbury, Maryland, then making one round trip a day. The frequency of the trips was increased from time to time and during World War II a service between Salisbury and Chincoteague was added. In 1949 the line was acquired by the Red Star Line, which long has operated between Baltimore and Salisbury.

In 1936 the Pennsylvania Grey-Hound Lines began through service between New York and Philadelphia and Norfolk via the Virginia Eastern Shore, the buses crossing the Chesapeake Bay on the Virginia Ferry Corporation steamers.

Motor Trucks—Motor trucks now probably handle a majority of the commodities from and to the Virginia Eastern Shore. It is estimated that the following percentages of various commodities produced on the Shore move to market by trucks:⁵³

Irish potatoes 40; sweet potatoes 50; strawberries 95; snap beans 90; lima beans 98; cabbage 60; onions 75; sweet peppers 90.

Air Service—While there is no scheduled passenger service by air from the Virginia Eastern Shore, there is charter and taxi service from Kellam Field at Wierwood, in Northampton County, and from the Parksley Field, in Accomack County. There are air fields also at Chincoteague and Cape Charles.

Kellam Field is the pioneer flying field on the Virginia Eastern Shore. It has been in operation since 1933, when it was opened by D. M. Kellam, with one hangar and a north-south runway, 1,500 feet long. In 1936 it was licensed by the State Corporation Commission. In 1938 the runway was lengthened to 2,100 feet. In 1939 the United States Army used this field as a base for gunnery practice. During World War II it was used as a base for the Eastern Shore Squadron Civil Air Patrol engaged at that time in giving young men an aviation background and orientation flights in government planes, one of which remained at the field. In 1945 two more hangars were built and the field enlarged by the addition of an east-west runway; during the same year it was approved by the Civil Aeronautics Administration as a primary flight training school. It continues to be used for flight training for veterans and others, as well as for plane repairs.

The Parksley airport, opened in 1940, also is licensed for flight training under the G. I. Bill of Rights.

Planes have been owned privately by Virginia Eastern Shore citizens since soon after World War I. The late Robert Bull of the Melfa section was the first native to own and operate his own plane—in 1920.

Highways—With minor exceptions there were no hard surfaced roads on the Virginia Eastern Shore until the 1920s. From as early as is known the roads were of dirt. Occasionally one found stretches that were improved by the addition of oyster shells, or dirt supported by small logs laid underneath, sometimes referred to as "corduroy roads." How serviceable these highways were usually depended on the type of soil through which they were laid and the matter of drainage. If the drainage happened to be poor, as so frequently was the case, after heavy rains they were churned into mud or worn into almost continuous ruts or holes, sometimes nearly axle-deep. If the surrounding soil were sandy, rains generally brought a generous supply onto the roads and progress, whether in a horse-drawn or motor vehicle, was seriously retarded.

During the last quarter of the nineteenth century—perhaps even earlier—roads were maintained in a large measure by requiring every able-bodied man to contribute a given number of days of labor to their up-keep, under the supervision of the magisterial district road manager.

In 1923 work on U. S. highway number thirteen, which on the Virginia Eastern Shore runs from the town of Cape Charles, was started at Cape Charles, and it went north for six miles. It was of concrete and eighteen feet wide. As No. 13 was built under the "pay-as-you-go" plan of highway construction, usually not more than six miles in each county were constructed annually. In consequence it was 1931 before it was an unbroken ribbon of concrete between the Maryland-Virginia line and Cape Charles. From time to time it has been widened and now has three traffic lanes and in sections of the Shore there are four. Thirty-seven and forty-one hundredths (37.41) miles of it is in Accomack and twenty-four and sixty-four one hundredths (24.64) miles in Northampton.

Virtually every community on the Virginia Eastern Shore is on a hard-surfaced type of road, either concrete or stone covered with bituminous material. The first of the east-west hard-surfaced roads leading from bayside to seaside was from Harborton to Wachapreague, via Pungoteague and Keller, completed in 1933.

There are in Accomack 384 miles of hard surfaced roads, and in Northampton 213.⁵⁴

The vision of the late Capt. John B. Whealton, a native of Chincoteague Island, was responsible for the organization, planning and construction of the series of bridges and roads that connected that island with the mainland of Accomack County. This toll highway was completed and opened to the public late in 1922, and it proved to be a profitable investment for its promoters. In June, 1930,⁵⁵ it was acquired by the Department of Highways of the State of Virginia from its builders and owners, the Chincoteague Toll Road and Bridge Company, Inc., and the toll charges for moving over it were then discontinued. In July, 1939, the Department of Highways began the replacement of the earlier bridges with more adequate structures over Queen Sound, Cockle Creek, Mosquito Creek, Wire Narrows and Chincoteague Channel and the work was completed in November, 1940.

By an act of the Virginia General Assembly the road is designated as the John B. Whealton Memorial Highway.

10. COMMUNICATIONS

Mail—When mails, on regular schedules, first came to the Virginia Eastern Shore is indefinite. It is known that the stages that operated between Eastville and Snow Hill, Maryland, before the coming of the railroad, carried mail, and that mail was brought to the Eastern Shore from Norfolk by steamer in the 1850s. The Baltimore steamers brought mail to the Eastern Shore and it was dispatched from the bayside wharves to Pungoteague and other points on the stage line for other communities in Accomack and Northampton. Within the memory of this writer (which goes back into the 1890s), the Baltimore steamers touching Pungoteague, Nandua and Occahannock creeks carried one or more mail clerks to "work the mail" enroute. Locked pouch mail continued by this route into the first decade of the twentieth century. All mail now comes to or leaves the Virginia Eastern Shore by the Pennsylvania Railroad and/or its subsidiaries.

Post offices had been established at Hornton, Drummondtown (Accomac) and Eastville before the nineteenth century dawned and at Pungoteague (1816), Modest Town (1822), Onancock (1826), Belle Haven (1826), Capeville (1828), Franktown (1834), Messongo (1837), Locustville (1839), Locust Mount, (1839), Bridgetown (1839), Cherrystone (1845), Temperanceville (1852) and Chincoteague—spelled Gingotig—(1853) before the War of Secession. (The post office at Chincoteague was discontinued in 1854 and not re-established until 1863).

There was no regular mail service to and from the Virginia Eastern Shore from soon after the Old Dominion seceded from the Union until after it was occupied by Federal troops in November, 1861. "Orders have already been given, at my solicitation, to restore mail service between Snow Hill and Eastville," wrote Major General John A. Dix, from Baltimore on November 25, 1861, to Brig. Gen. Henry H. Lockwood, then at Drummondtown (Accomac).

For reasons now unknown the name of Pungoteague was changed to Bobtown on October 21, 1862, and it was not until August 18, 1863, that the former name was restored to that post office.

After the coming of the railroad in 1884, post offices were established in virtually every community in the two counties. Mail for post offices off the railroad was carried by private contractors, whose compensation, as a result of competitive bidding, seldom was sufficeint to cover the cost of their operations.

With the establishment of rural free delivery service on the Virginia Eastern Shore—from Chincoteague on June 1, 1905, and from Exmore on December 17, 1906, and in later years from Accomac, Greenbush, Melfa, New Church, Onancock, Painter and Cape Charles—numerous post offices were discontinued, including some in communities that in earlier years had been centers of considerable trade. According to the United States Post Office research division, in the twentieth century post offices at Belinda, Bobtown, Boggs (Wharf), Bullbegger, Cashville, Chesconnessex, Clam, Dreka, Evans Wharf, Fair Oaks, Finney (Wharf), Fox Island, Grangeville, Grape, Greta, Guilford, Hyslop, Locust Mount, Mappsburg, Marsh Market, Mearsville, Metompkin, Miona, Nandua (Wharf), Pastoria, Poulson, Rue, Savageville, Silva, Trower, Wagram and Wishart, in Accomack County, and Brighton, Broadwater (Hog Island), Cheapside, Cherrystone, Dalbys, Dingly, Glynn, Kiptopeke, Magotha, Reads Wharf, Shadyside and Stewarts Wharf, in Northampton, have been discontinued.

Telegraph—The first telegraph line on the Virginia Eastern Shore was established by the Federal Government during the War Between the States (early in 1862) and seems to have been used solely for military purposes. For the most part it followed the "old stage route" in Accomack and Northampton. There was a cable connection across the bay to Fort Monroe. Included in the report of Major Thomas T. Eckert Assistant Superintendent of United States Military Telegraph, dated July 1, 1864, is mention of "the telegraph line from Wilmington, Delaware, to Cherrystone Point, 158 miles," and a "Cable from Cherrystone Point to Back Creek lighthouse, 23 miles."⁵⁸ This seems to have been discontinued after the ending of hostilities. This line and cable were necessary for quick communication between Fort Monroe, and other areas in eastern Virginia occupied by the Federals, and Washington, D. C.

The Western Union came with the completion of the New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk railroad late in 1884. It used a wire strung along the rail-

road right of way that ran into the various railroad depots over which the messages were dispatched and received. In 1902 the Postal Telegraph Company supplanted the Western Union into the railroad offices and the Western Union then ran a telegraph line to Cape Charles, following the public roads. In 1919 the Western Union re-entered the railroad stations. At that time the Postal left the Shore but some time thereafter returned. It again ceased its service on the Virginia Eastern Shore but before long was back again. It finally left permanently in 1932, several years before the Western Union absorbed the Postal.

In addition to the railroad points, the Western Union has offices at Cape Charles, Exmore and Onley.

Telephone—The first telephone line serving any part of the Virginia Eastern Shore was run between Harborton, Pungoteague and Keller, in 1894. The chief promoter was Albro J. Morse, the resident manager and chief stockholder of the American Fish Guano Company at Harborton. He, Raymond R. Hutchinson and Charles W. Marsh of Harborton, John C. Taylor of Pungoteague and Benjamin W. Mears of Keller were the incorporators of the Peninsula Telephone Company. The office of the company was located at Harborton. The first meeting of the incorporators resulted in the election of Hutchinson as president, Taylor as secretary, Morse as treasurer, George D. Winder of Pungoteague as vice president, and Messrs. Mears, Marsh and George B. Hoffman of Harborton as directors. From time to time the line was extended and eventually served all the territory in both Accomack and Northampton counties south of Keller.

The next telephone company organized on the Shore was known as the Hall Telephone Company, with James A. Hall of Marsh Market as president. On December 10, 1897, the Circuit Court of Accomack County authorized it to construct lines and operate throughout Metompink, Atlantic and the Islands districts.

Telephone service in Onancock and to other points in Lee district was given by the Onancock Telephone Company, organized in 1898 by Spencer F. Rogers and others.

Later the Hall and Onancock companies were merged with the Accomack and Northampton Telephone Company, which had been organized by Joshua T. Sharpley and others of the Greenbackville-Franklin City section.

As the telephone business grew it became apparent that better service could be furnished if the several companies were combined. Accordingly the Diamond State Telephone Company, a Delaware corporation, acquired the majority of the stock of the Peninsula Telephone Company, and in 1905 the latter company was merged with the Diamond State; in 1907 its property on the Virginia Eastern Shore was assigned to the Diamond State Telephone Company of Virginia. In 1912 this company and the Accomack and Northampton Telephone Company were merged with the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of Virginia, since which all of the telephone property in Accomack and Northampton counties has been operated and maintained by the latter company, which is associated with the Bell System. By toll connections its lines reach to every section of the United States and to more distant countries.

On January 1, 1949 there were 6,500 'phones on the Virginia Eastern Shore.⁵⁷

12. NEWSPAPERS

The Virginia Eastern Shore has four weekly newspapers. The oldest of these, from the standpoint of continuous publication, is the *Peninsula Enterprise*, founded at Accomac on June 30, 1881, by John Willis Edmonds and John T. Bull. A year later Mr. Bull sold his interest to Mr. Edmonds, who continued its publication until his death in 1914. He was succeeded by his sons, Alfred B. G. and John W. Edmonds, Jr., the present publishers.

The *Eastern Shore News*, issued at Onancock, is a consolidation of a paper of the same name, published at Cape Charles during 1920-24, and the older *Accomack News*, founded in Onancock in 1896 by James C. Rowles. Soon it was owned by Nehemiah W. Nock. In 1907 Mr. Nock sold the paper to L. D. Teackle Quinby who operated it until 1910, when it was purchased by Spencer F. Rogers. In 1920 Mr. Rogers sold the *Accomack News* to the present publisher, John T. Borum, and associates, who organized the Eastern Shore Publishing Company. Since 1944 the latter company has been owned solely by Mr. Borum and his wife, Thelma Bradley Borum. The *Eastern Shore News* has a paid circulation in excess of 7,500, the largest of any rural weekly in the South.

The *Eastern Shore Herald's* first issue was April 8, 1881, issued at Eastville by Thomas M. Scott and Julius W. Borum, and was then called the *Eastern Shore Weekly Herald*. When its name was shortened or when these gentlemen retired from its publication is undetermined. In the early 1890s it was being published by Thomas B. Robertson an attorney, who in 1912 sold it to Benjamin T. Fisher. In 1947 Mr. Fisher sold it to John B. Schoolfield, the present owner. It is now printed by The Turner Company, Inc., of Exmore and Nassawadox, and entered as second-class mail matter in the latter post office.

The *Northampton Times* was founded at Cape Charles about the turn of the century, by whom this writer has been unable to ascertain. In 1903 it was being published by the Times Publishing Company, the stockholders of which were Lemuel E. Mumford, Richard D. L. Fletcher, William B. Wilson, John T. Daniel and John G. Rodgers (the last named for the New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk Railroad Company). Mr. Daniel, a prominent attorney, was the editor, and James A. Pugh the manager. About 1910 it was acquired by Mr. Daniel and J. E. N. Sterling, and later Mr. Daniel became the sole owner. It remains in the Daniel family.

Cape Charles had two earlier papers, the *Pioneer*, founded in 1885 and for sixteen years published by the late William Bullitt Fitzhugh. In 1886 Capt. George B. Savage, a pioneer resident of Cape Charles, and a Colonel Hollis of Chincoteague founded a paper said to have been named the *Headlight*. As late as 1899 there was being published at Cape Charles a paper called *The Light*. Whether this was the same or the successor of the *Headlight*, or when it was discontinued, the writer has not learned.

The first Eastern Shore newspaper of which there is a record was the *National Recorder*, published at Accomac (then Drummondtown) by A. S. Gootee and C. R. Coard, during 1860 and 1861. It seems to have been discontinued at the time of or just prior to the Federal invasion in November, 1861. It is known that the *Regimental Flag* published by the Second Delaware Regiment during its stay of about four months, was printed in the former *National Recorder* office.

The *Eastern Virginian* seems to have been founded in Onancock about 1872. Vol. IV, No. 16 shows that it was then published by Marshall and Com-

pany, with C. W. B. Marshall as editor and Charles R. Marshall as foreman. Vol. XI, No. 19, shows Frank P. Brent as editor and the Onancock Publishing Company as publishers. When it was discontinued is now unknown.

In 1890 Captain Nathaniel B. Rich, a merchant at Wachapreague, founded the *Farmer and Fisherman*, and was assisted in editing it by John H. Johnson. When Mr. Johnson became principal of the school in Belle Haven in 1891 he and some Belle Haven business men purchased the paper and published it there. In 1895 Mr. Johnson became the sole owner and continued publishing it until he moved to Richmond in 1901, when he sold it. Soon thereafter publication was discontinued. Mr. Johnson has been on the staff of the *State Comptroller* in Richmond ever since.

F. J. Townsend established the *Chincoteague Islander* at Chincoteague in December, 1894. How long it was published is unknown.⁵⁸

E. W. Barnes is said to have published a paper at Parksley in the 1880s; and the colored people had one at Onancock about 1907-08.

12. UTILITIES

A majority of the communities on the Virginia Eastern Shore are supplied with electricity by the Eastern Shore Public Service Company of Virginia, a private enterprise, incorporated under the laws of Virginia in 1927. Previous to 1927 there were several companies operating in various towns and villages in Accomack and Northampton and their properties and/or franchises previously or soon thereafter were acquired by the foregoing company or its predecessors.

Until late in 1927 Cape Charles was supplied with electricity by the Pennsylvania Railroad or its predecessor, the New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk Railroad, the Town of Cape Charles purchasing the current and selling it to its citizens.

The Exmore Light & Power Company, a subsidiary of the Exmore Ice & Storage Company, incorporated in 1914, had a generating plant at Exmore and distributed electricity in that town, Belle Haven, Birds Nest, Cheriton, Craddockville, Eastville, Franktown, Keller, Machipongo, Marionville, Nassawadox, Painter, Wachapreague, Willis Wharf and vicinity.

The generating plant and distribution center in the town of Onley and vicinity were constructed in 1909 by H. L. East and operated by him until he sold out in 1927.

Onancock seems to have had its first electric current in 1909, when a franchise was granted by that town to the Onancock Light Company. Its successor in 1910 was the Onancock Light & Power Company, owned by Upshur Sturgis and Andrew Justice. Justice purchased the half interest of Mr. Sturgis and in 1914 sold the property to Burley W. and Thomas W. James, who operated a generating plant at Tasley and supplied that town and Accomack with electricity, and who sold to a predecessor of the Eastern Shore Public Service Company about 1928.

In 1913 the Town of Chincoteague granted a franchise for the generating and distribution of electric current to the Delmarva Light, Heat and Refrigeration Corporation, which lost it under a mortgage foreclosure, and in 1922 the property was acquired by the Chincoteague Ice Manufacturing Company and the Chincoteague Light Company from Caleb McCabe and Argela H.

McCabe, who about a month earlier had purchased it from the trustee under the mortgage.

The Eastern Shore Public Service Company of Virginia has an investment of three million dollars in generating and distribution system and other property on the Virginia Eastern Shore, where it serves 7,900 customers in 47 communities. It has 68 employees in Accomack and Northampton. In 1948 it had a gross electric revenue of \$693,616. It paid \$124,715 in Federal, State, County and Municipal taxes.

In May, 1941, the Accomack-Northampton Electric Co-operative began operating in these counties, having purchased the generating plant and distribution properties of the Parksley Coal & Supply Company, which had supplied Parksley and some other communities in upper Accomack with electric current and ice. "The Rural Electrification Administration had, as of June 30, 1949, lent the co-operative a total of \$2,000,000, and the latter was serving 3,022 consumers," according to Hon. Claude R. Wickard, administrator of the REA. This co-operative was relieved of taxes for the first five years. According to a report of the co-operative's activities, appearing in the *Eastern Shore News* of December 16, 1949, it that year paid \$12,000 in State and local taxes.

The Chesapeake Islands Electric Co-operative has been serving Tangier Island, with 211 consumers, since December, 1947. As of June, 1949, the Rural Electrification had lent it \$160,121.07, according to Mr. Wickard. It is now serving from the Tangier generating plant the co-op members on Smith's Island, over a seven-mile over-water line.

13. THE VIRGINIA EASTERN SHORE IN WAR

Citizens of the Virginia Eastern Shore have borne arms in every major war in which Americans have been engaged. During the nineteenth century twice was its soil occupied by an invading force.

War of 1812—As early as March, 1813, the British were foraging on the Virginia Eastern Shore. Lieutenant Colonel John Cropper of the Second Regiment of Virginia Militia, in a letter dated March 20, 1813, addressed to the Governor of Virginia, stated that on "the 9th day of March . . . a British tender and some barges went into Cherryston's harbor and took a cargo of flour out of one schooner and set fire to another, but as soon as the Militia collected, the enemy fled, taking with them however two milch cows from Mr. Savage. The next day two barges from the ships lying near Cape Charles boarded a schooner aground. She belonged to Northampton and was loaded with brandy and wine. Captain Simkins' Infantry of the 27th Regiment collected with uncommon celerity, and with a gallantry becoming veteran soldiers; it is said 30 compelled 40 in number to relinquish their prize without destroying or carrying away anything except five turkeys. . . ." ⁵⁹

On April 5, 1814, the British occupied Tangier and Watts islands and held possession of them until after the announcement of the signing of the Treaty of Peace in Ghent in 1815. "The British fleet made Tangier harbor and island the center of their operations while the bay was being ravaged, the capitol [in Washington] burned and the city of Baltimore bombarded. . . . A large reinforcement came over from the English shores; and a squadron of about fifty or sixty sail entered the Chesapeake Bay. . . . They cast anchor . . .

and landed about two hundred men on the lower beach, where they pitched their tents, and immediately went to work with all their might, clearing off the ground and building forts. . . ."⁶⁰

Living on Tangier then was the Reverend Joshua Thomas, servant of God, who, though uneducated, in his day had no rival among his Methodist brethren in his zeal for the salvation of souls and his effectiveness in bringing men to Christ. When Rev. Mr. Thomas noted that the men who were cutting down all trees—



Custis House, Accomack County

wild cherry, pine and cedars—were approaching the campground, where the Methodists held their great meetings, he appealed to Admiral Cockburn to spare the trees, and the request was granted.

"Two forts were erected a little to the south of the campground, east and west from each other, about three hundred yards apart. The tents of the army were pitched in a semicircular form, extending about half round on the north side, and a very pleasant summer house was built in the center."⁶¹

Besides the regular militia regiments—99th in the Accomack parish, the Second in St. George's Parish, and the 27th in Northampton—authority was asked by Accomack and Northampton citizens to raise companies of riflemen and artillery, but equipment seems never to have been sent; in fact not enough for the regular militia. Members of the Second Regiment were stationed in Occohannock Neck, on both the south and north sides of Pungoteague Creek, Onancock Creek, Chesconnessex and Deep Creek, and detachments of the 99th at Hunting, Guilford and Messongo creeks and along the Pocomoke River.

The engagement of any consequence was on Whitsunday (May 29), 1814, when about 500 British soldiers and sailors, in eleven barges and launches, landed

on the north side of Pungoteague Creek in Prospect (then Sluthkill) Neck and were repulsed by members of the Second Regiment of Militia. This is known locally as the Battle of Rumley's Gut. (What is now called Rumley's Gut is an inconsequential Gut almost directly north of Black Day Beacon No. 7, on the north side of Pungoteague Creek.) On the south side, at Buckland's Gut, was another company of the Second Regiment but the British were out of range of its muskets. The invaders, however, used their "18 lb. 12 lb. and 4 lb. cannister and grape shot and congreve rockets" on the companies on both sides of the creek. The militia's only loss was a four-pound iron cannon and one private, Ezor Kellam, seriously but not mortally wounded. The British left on the field the body of a Negro in full uniform. Later reports indicated that two others died of their wounds and two wounded recovered.⁶²

On the night of May 6, 1814, several barges of the British were repulsed as they attempted to enter Occohannock Creek, which they had mistaken for Pungoteague. A large American schooner out of New York which the British had captured had been anchored between Tangier and Watts islands and used as a buoy from which courses and distances were calculated. During a north-west gale it broke from its moorings, and no one being on board, was driven ashore between Pungoteague and Andua creeks. It was to recover this vessel the trip was undertaken.⁶³

The British made a surprise landing at Chesconnessex about three o'clock the morning of June 2, 1814, and with nearly 500 men forced the retreat of the 32-man guard, who with a 4-lb. cannon and muskets opposed the enemy until within thirty yards of the improvised breastworks.⁶⁴

According to reports of Lieutenant Colonel Thomas M. Bayly to the governor of Virginia⁶⁵ the size of the British fleet at Tangier changed from time to time. In such a letter, dated June 23, 1814, "the forces of the Enemy at Tangier for several days past were the *Albion*, 74, 83 guns (flagship of Admiral Cockburn), *Endymion*, a frigate, and on the 21st were joined by a brig and on yesterday a ship, 74, or a frigate of the first rate, anchored four miles below the *Albion*; two large schooners and a number of tenders. This is a strong force. . . . The fort is not now completed only three sides done; these sides are 250 yards long. It is an extremely large fort. Now mounted eight 24-lb. cannon, and the 6-lb. cannon captured at Pungoteague the 29th of May. Now landed and soon will be landed 18 and 24 lb. cannon . . . and a great number of large guns are daily expected. The fort is to be made complete and is to be the headquarters of the commander-in-chief. The harbor is very good, large and safe. Mr. Fenwick is the engineer building the fort, which was planned in England. . . . Now laid out on the island very large gardens and vegetables of all sorts growing in perfection. Now grazing on the island eighteen bullocks and cows; the meadows good. A hospital to contain 100 sick now building . . . and twenty houses built, all laid out in streets. Only 48 Negroes on the island, they are soldiers. Only four black men on board the *Albion*. . . . This information is furnished by deserters who landed at our camp at Chesconnessex on the 20th. . . ."⁶⁶

A few days before the British were to leave Tangier for the attack on Baltimore, Reverend Mr. Thomas was directed to hold a public meeting and exhort the soldiers on the camp ground on the next Sunday. "At the appointed hour, the soldiers were all drawn up in solid columns, about twelve thousand men, under the pines of the old campground, which formed the open space in the

center of the tents." In his discourse he told them that "It is given me from the Almighty that you can not take Baltimore and will not succeed in your expedition."⁶⁷ This was but one of several instances in the ministerial career of Mr. Thomas that he received Divine revelation. It was the British who first gave him the designation of "the Parson of the Islands." He had ministered to many of the soldiers and on one occasion held services for the officers on the *Albion*.

Almost a score of years ago the writer was told that the site of the British fort and camp was fully half a mile in the bay, so relentless have been the waves and the winds.

War of Secession—In January, 1861, the Virginia General Assembly called for an election of delegates to a convention which, in effect, was to decide whether Virginia should secede or stay in the Union. Accomack elected William H. B. Custis on a platform opposed to secession while Northampton sent Miers W. Fisher who favored Virginia joining South Carolina and other southern states in forming the Confederate States of America. The total vote of Virginia in favor of the Union was 55,000 more than cast for the secession delegates. The convention convened in Richmond early in February and adamantly refused to be taken out of the Union until April 17th, when it adopted the Ordinance of Secession by a vote of 88 to 55. This followed the demand of President Lincoln that Virginia and other states furnish troops to compel the seceded states to re-enter the Union. On April 4th the secessionists had been defeated in the convention by a vote of 88 to 45. Mr. Custis voted against the ordinance and Mr. Fisher for it. At a later date Mr. Custis signed the ordinance, obviously reluctantly,⁶⁸ and returned to the Eastern Shore, where passively at least he favored the Union.

When the Ordinance of Secession was before the electorate for ratification or rejection, not a vote was cast against it in Northampton, it having received the 505 polled. There were 673 qualified.⁶⁹ Accomack also ratified the ordinance but there is no record of the vote in the Clerk's Office at Accomack, the archives in Richmond or Washington or in the Richmond or Baltimore papers other than estimated or conjectural majorities, ranging from 486⁷⁰ in the former to 600⁷¹ in the latter. There is no information as to how any precinct in Accomack voted except on Chincoteague Island, where the vote was "134 for the Union to 2 for Disunion,"⁷² and at Pungoteague and Locust Mount, "where not a single vote was cast in favor of the Union."⁷²

At that time all voting in Virginia was done by the voter publicly announcing his favor or disapproval of a measure or candidate and the clerk so recording it. The Unionists on the Virginia Eastern Shore asserted that the heavy vote in favor of secession in Accomack and Northampton came about as a result of "deceptive addresses . . . which took many of the illiterate and dependent men unawares . . . fear and threats of tar and feathering. . . ."⁷³ Dr. Arthur Watson, of Accomack, a member of the Virginia General Assembly which called the convention that adopted the Ordinance of Secession, in a letter, dated December 12, 1861, to Hon. Daniel Frost, a member of the House of Delegates from Jackson County during the same session, said: ". . . Our two counties . . . Accomack and Northampton were largely Union until threats intimidated the people and instead of giving a large vote against ratification, which would have been in accordance with their desires, a large majority was polled in favor of the Ordinance."⁷⁴

In November, 1863, several very prominent gentlemen in Accomack and Northampton seem to have requested a statement from Brigadier General Henry H. Lockwood, then commanding the Federal forces on the Virginia Eastern Shore, attesting their loyalty to the Union. One of the letters the General wrote included this paragraph: [He] "in common with everyone else in Northampton County voted for the ratification of the Ordinance of Secession, but, I am informed, public opinion at that time ran so high that it was regarded as not safe to vote otherwise."⁷⁵

Even before the people voted on the question of adopting or rejecting the Ordinance of Secession (May 23, 1861), the Federals had blockaded the Chesapeake and other Virginia waterways, effectively cutting off the Virginia Eastern Shore from trade beyond its own borders. At the same time the officials of these counties were making preparations for their defense and to aid the Confederate cause. Court records at Accomack and Eastville show that the County Courts authorized appropriations for arms and ammunition. Appeals were made from time to time to the State and Confederate governments at Richmond for assistance but without much success.

There was organized on the Virginia Eastern Shore between early June and late September, 1861, the 39th Virginia Regiment of Volunteers, comprising approximately 800 men, in eight companies of infantry, two of cavalry and one of light artillery, to supplement the local militia: 99th Regiment in Accomack Parish; 2nd Regiment in St. George's Parish, and the 27th in Northampton.

The infantry units were: Company A, Captain William C. Wickings; Company B, Captain F. M. Ironmonger; Company D, Captain James S. Kellam; Company E, Captain Spencer D. Fletcher; Company F, Captain John J. H. Wise; Company G, Captain Lloyd F. J. Wilson; Company H, Captain George S. West; Company L, Captain Edward B. Waples. (Company A was enlisted at Camp Huger, on the farm of Dr. George T. Yerby, in Old Town Neck on Hungars Creek, and Company B there and at Eastville; Company D chiefly at Downing's Wharf, though a few at Eastville, Franktown and Hadlock; Company E at Jenkins Bridge, in upper Accomack; Company F at Drummondtown and Pungoteague; Company G at Guilford; Company H at Pungoteague, and Company L at Onancock.) The cavalry companies were C, Captain Thomas Z. Henderson, enlisted at Franktown, and Company I, Captain Nathaniel J. W. LeCato, enlisted at Harper's Ferry (near Grangeville, between the present Wachapreague and Keller communities). Company K was light artillery, Captain Peter B. Smith, enlisted at Camp Huger.⁷⁶

The regiment was commanded by Colonel Charles Smith, of "Wellington," near Franktown. He represented Northampton in the Virginia House of Delegates from 1893 to 1898 and again the session of 1904.

While the State Militia (comprised of all other able-bodied white men between 18 and 45) before 1861 mustered three times annually, they were now drilling weekly.

The Federals occasionally sent a gunboat along the shores of the Chesapeake. In August, 1861, according to the muster rolls of the 39th Virginia Volunteers, they drove off an attempted landing by the Federals at Cherrystone, in Northampton County, and the *Baltimore Sun* of August 10, 1861, mentions a landing by the Federals near the mouth of the Pocomoke River. In September, 1861, there was a skirmish between Eastern Shore troops and

the United States gunboat *Louisiana* near Wisharts Point, with none mortally wounded on either side.⁷⁷ The *Louisiana* was then based at Chincoteague.

In the early fall of 1861 detachments of the Second Regiment of Militia were stationed behind a breastwork at Buckley's Gut, on the Evergreen farm, on the south side of Pungoteague Creek. A Federal gunboat, supposedly the *Fanny*,⁷⁸ went up the creek as far as Bluff Point and fired at the troops. The shell, from a Dahlgreen, passed over the breastwork, and later was recovered, unexploded, from the Dam Gut, separating the Martin and Hutchinson farms. (The cast iron shell is now in the possession of Mr. Smith K. Martin, of Harborton). The militia attempted to reply with the breastwork's one cannon, a four-pounder, but it failed to fire.

This breastwork was used by the militia during the War of 1812 and probably by them during the War of the Revolution. (Virginia Calendar of State Papers).

Both the volunteers and the militia remained poorly equipped. There were eight field pieces,⁷⁹ all or most of them used in the War of 1812, and at least one—a four pound brass cannon cast in France—during the Revolution.⁸⁰ The few rifles were those obtained before Virginia seceded, and some of the muskets also saw service in the War of 1812. Some members had nothing more than shot guns, old flint locks, axes or clubs, according to local tradition.

Considerable supplies were reaching the Confederates through the Virginia Eastern Shore despite the Federal blockade of the Chesapeake.⁸¹ Sailing vessels clearing from Baltimore, Philadelphia and other northern points for southern Maryland were being unloaded just below the Maryland line or the goods were being smuggled from those Maryland counties into Virginia. From various bayside creeks, blockade runners, in small craft, under uncertain weather conditions, carried the contraband across the Chesapeake.

With the view of at least curtailing this practice and the elimination of "a system of daily and regular communication between the Confederate commanders in Virginia and their allies in Baltimore, the breaking up of the rebel camps there (Accomack and Northampton) before they ripen into formidable organizations," and the "winning back of those people to the cause of the Union,"⁸² Governor Hicks of Maryland—he was from Dorchester County; favored slavery but opposed to secession—and Major General John A. Dix, of the Department of Pennsylvania, with headquarters in Baltimore, in midsummer of 1861, began urging the United States War Department to authorize the invasion of the Virginia Eastern Shore.

In November, 1861, there were assembled at Salisbury, Pocomoke (then Newtown) and Snow Hill, Maryland, about 4,500 fully equipped and for the most part well trained troops, under the command of Brigadier General Henry H. Lockwood, a graduate of West Point, for the invasion of Accomack and Northampton. Nearly all the troops had been transported from Baltimore, and besides those from Delaware and Maryland there were large units from New York, Massachusetts, Indiana, Wisconsin and Michigan.⁸³

When the assembling of Delaware and Maryland volunteers in Dorchester, Worcester and Somerset counties, Maryland, made it obvious that the Federals intended to attempt an invasion of the Virginia Eastern Shore, Colonel Smith ordered the 800 volunteers, members of the 39th Virginia Regiment, C. S. A., and the 1,200 members of the local militia to proceed to upper Accomack with the view of repelling the enemy, and in the meantime to construct breastworks across

roads. The largest of these was about one and a half miles below New Church, and, according to the Federal report "... gave three sides of a pentagon, and looking north ... and ... was intended to mount three guns. ..." ⁸⁴ At the same time further appeal was made to the Confederate authorities west of the Chesapeake for reinforcements. On November 14, 1861, the Acting Assistant Adjutant General, at the direction of Major-General J. Bankhead Magruder, commanding the Peninsula army of the Confederate Government, in the Yorktown-Williamsburg area, sent by messenger to Colonel Smith a dispatch, in which he said: "... he [General Magruder] has neither the reinforcements to send nor the means to send them. ..." ⁸⁵ When the Federal troops continued to increase near the Virginia border and Colonel Smith had reason to believe there might be as many as 8,000 in the invasion forces, the decision was made to order retreat and report to the Confederate War Department at Richmond. ⁸⁶

When the Federal troops entered Accomack on November 16, 1861, they found no militia or other organized troops to oppose them. They had disbanded and scattered. A few of the members of the 39th Virginia Volunteers within the next few days had succeeded in "running the blockade" of the Chesapeake and landed in Gloucester and Norfolk counties. Forty-four officers and 64 enlisted men had escaped before the Federals were in complete control of Accomack and Northampton counties. (By special Order No. 25, issued by the Secretary of War on January 25, 1862, the 39th Virginia Volunteers were disbanded on February 3, 1862. A number of the men enlisted in the 46th Virginia Infantry, the 19th Virginia Heavy Artillery and the 24th Virginia Cavalry. Young men from the Virginia Eastern Shore continued to elude the Federal blockade and enter the armed forces of the Confederacy. The records in the Clerks' offices show 197 from Accomack and 255 from Northampton ⁸⁷

Under a flag of truce, the day before the invasion there was distributed in upper Accomack "A Proclamation to the People of Accomack and Northampton Counties, Virginia," issued by General Dix on November 13, 1861. It read:

The military forces of the United States are about to enter your counties as a part of the Nation. They will go among you as friends, and with the earnest hope that they may not, by your own acts, be forced to become your enemies. They will invade no rights of person or property; on the contrary, your laws, your institutions, your usages will be scrupulously respected. There need be no fear that the quietude of your fire-sides will be disturbed unless the disturbance is caused by yourselves. Special directions have been given not to interfere with the condition of any person held to domestic service; and in order that there may be no ground for mistake or pretext for misrepresentation, the commanders of the regiments and corps have been instructed not to permit any such person to come within their lines.

The command of the expedition is intrusted to Brigadier General Henry H. Lockwood of Delaware, a state identical in some distinctive features of its social organization with your own. Portions of his force come from counties in Maryland bordering on one of these. From him and them you may be assured of the sympathy of near neighbors as well as friends, if you do not repel it by hostile attack. Their mission is to assert the authority of the United States; to re-open your intercourse with the loyal states and especially with Maryland (which has just proclaimed her

devotion to the Union by the most triumphant vote of her political annals); to restore to commerce its accustomed guides, by re-establishing the lights on your coast; to afford you a free export for the products of your labor, and a free ingress for the necessities and comforts of life which you require in exchange; and in a word to put an end to the embarrassments and restrictions brought upon you by a causeless and unjustifiable rebellion.

If the calamities of an internecine war, which are desolating other districts of Virginia and have already crimsoned her fields with fraternal blood, fall also upon you, it will not be the fault of the Government. It asks only that its authority be recognized. It sends among you a force too strong to be successfully opposed—a force which cannot be resisted in any other spirit than that of wantonness and malignity. If there are any among you who, rejecting all overtures of friendship, thus provoke retaliation and draw down upon themselves the consequences which the Government is anxious to avert, to their account must be laid the blood which may be shed and the desolation which may be brought upon peaceful homes. On all who are thus reckless of obligations of humanity and duty, and on all who are found in arms, the severest punishment warranted by the laws of war will be visited. To those who remain in the quiet pursuit of their domestic occupations, the public authorities assure all they can give—peace, freedom from annoyance, protection from foreign and internal enemies, a guaranty of all constitutional and legal rights and the blessings of a just and paternal Government.⁸⁸

That General Dix issued the proclamation in good faith seems to be evidenced by his instructions to General Lockwood, which included the following:⁸⁹

The utmost diligence is required to preserve discipline among your troops and to prevent any outrage upon persons or property. If any man violates your orders in this respect, you will put him in irons and send him to these headquarters (Baltimore). No distinction should be made between the citizens of these counties in regard to the past. All who submit peaceably to the authority of the Government are to be regarded as loyal. If any persists in acts of hostility, it is for you, as commander of the expedition, to decide what measures shall be taken in regard to their persons or their property, and with these prerogatives no subordinate can be permitted to interfere. The notion has been far too prevalent that the persons and property of secessionists may be unceremoniously dealt with by the commanders of regiments or corps and the sooner it is corrected, the better.

. . . we should labor to win back those who have separated themselves from us through a misunderstanding in regard to our motives and objects by kindness and conciliation, and above all by rigid abstinence from all invasion of their constitutional rights.⁹⁰

The Federal troops moved to Accomac (then Drummondtown), where General Lockwood established headquarters, using the present Episcopal rectory (then owned by Dr. Peter F. Browne, then a surgeon in the Confederate Army) as his residence; and then to Eastville. Confederate troops had the choice of being paroled or taking the oath of allegiance to the United States.

County officers who took the oath of allegiance to the United States were permitted to continue in office for the time being.

Federal troops occupied some of the camps earlier used by the Confederates. At Accomac they stationed some of them at Camp Wise (at "Rural Felicity," a farm on the Accomac-Locustville road, now owned by Noah T. Evans) and renamed it Camp Wilkes. The Methodist churches at Oak Hall, Accomac and Pungoteague, the Presbyterian Church at Accomac and the Episcopal Church at Pungoteague also were used by the soldiers. Before the middle of December, 1861,⁹¹ the troops from New York (Duryea's colorful Zouaves), Massachusetts, Michigan, Indiana and Wisconsin, and most of those from Baltimore, had been sent back to Baltimore. In March, 1862, the Second Delaware also was transferred, leaving about 1,200, who guarded the telegraph line, did patrol duty around creeks, etc.

From the beginning of the Federal occupancy the Virginia Eastern Shore was attached to the "reorganized" [Union] State of Virginia with Wheeling as the capital. It had no official contact with Richmond. While it supposedly had representatives in the General Assembly in Richmond, they were men in the Confederate service, named by the Legislature itself, under authority of the Convention (that adopted the Ordinance of Secession) to fill vacancies. As some of the Eastern Shore office holders had been removed by General Lockwood because of disloyalty to the United States or were unsatisfactory to the Unionist residents, Governor Pierpont of the "reorganized" State of Virginia called an election for January 25, 1862, and almost a new set of county officers were chosen. Dr. Gillett F. Watson, of "Mount Oregon," near Locustville, was elected state senator, and Samuel W. Powell and Robert S. Costin as members of the House of Delegates from Accomack and Northampton, respectively.⁹²

The Virginia Eastern Shore being so far removed from what is now West Virginia and having few similar interests, it was regarded as desirable to take a vote of the people of Accomack and Northampton as to their being annexed to Maryland. The measure passed the Wheeling legislature and an election was called for March 15, 1862.⁹³ The writer has found nothing to indicate the vote or the result.

With the occupancy by the Federals the usual business intercourse with Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and other northern cities was resumed, and business and agriculture seemed to have been engaged in about as before the war began. All boats had to be licensed and they were not permitted to leave or enter a creek between sunset and sunrise. This, however, did not eliminate entirely blockade running. Mail service was restored and the lighthouses again functioned.

Obviously the citizens by and large complied with the Federal regulations, even if reluctantly, for during the early summer of 1863 there were fewer than 350 Federal troops on the Shore, according to the War Department records. General Lockwood used many of those who had been with him for some time at Antietam and Gettysburg. He returned to the Shore soon after the battle at Gettysburg and remained until late that year, when, at General Benjamin F. Butler's insistence, Accomack and Northampton were placed in his department, with headquarters at Fort Monroe.⁹⁴

If General Dix had remained at Baltimore—in the summer of 1862 he was transferred to Fort Monroe for a short time, and from there to New York—or the Eastern Shore had continued under him, it is possible that sentiment in

favor of the Union might not have become less and that the promises made in his Proclamation in November, 1861, might have been kept. Instead of keeping the slaves out of military bounds, in accordance with his instructions to General Lockwood, army subordinates, in some instances, were making it difficult for their owners to retain them, and recruiting officers from other states were making little distinction between free colored and slaves.

Right after General Lockwood was transferred (December 5, 1863), to Maryland, General Butler ordered all but one hundred or so of the white troops sent elsewhere and he replaced them with 800 Negroes lately recruited at Craney Island. Governor Pierpont protested vigorously to the Secretary of War and they were sent elsewhere in about three weeks after their arrival.⁹⁵

Lieutenant Colonel Frank J. White, a young New York lawyer, who had distinguished himself in the army in Missouri, succeeded General Lockwood as commander-in-chief on the Virginia Eastern Shore.

Accomack and Northampton counties were among those excepted in President Lincoln's proclamation freeing the slaves in states that had seceded. At a constitutional convention held in Alexandria, Virginia, under the "reorganized" State of Virginia, in February, 1864, slaves in these and other Virginia counties excepted were set free.⁹⁶

This created a problem on the Virginia Eastern Shore not only for the slave owner but for the military authorities, who had the burden and responsibility of caring for these newly emancipated people, including providing food and shelter. The sick, infirm and aged were cared for largely at what the military authorities termed hospitals, which were established at Town Fields, in Northampton, and at Woodbourne, in Accomack. These properties, along with others owned by Eastern Shoremen in the Confederate service, had been confiscated, under authority of Congress. All such properties were leased and the revenues therefrom went into the Federal treasury, by which they were ministered. (After the war the properties were restored to their owners). Contracts for the labor of these ex-slaves were made by the military authorities. All able-bodied ex-slaves were required to work.⁹⁷

The demand for foods became so great that the military authorities set up markets at many points in the two counties, and the products or samples thereof had to be offered there for at least a day before permit could be obtained to "export" them to other loyal sections of the United States.⁹⁸

General Butler and Governor Pierpont usually were in conflict as to jurisdictional matters, the military over the civil.⁹⁹ One instance in which President Lincoln had to restrain Butler was the latter's threat to arrest Edward K. Snead, a distinguished Accomack attorney, then a Norfolk judge, if he held court contrary to Butler's order.¹⁰⁰ Supposedly Lieutenant Colonel Frank J. White, commanding the Federal forces on the Eastern Shore, and a warm admirer of Butler, was acting for the latter when he was about to call an election on the Virginia Eastern Shore asking that these counties be removed from Pierpont's jurisdiction and placed under the army.¹⁰¹ Lincoln stepped in and no further action was taken in the matter. White on November 9, 1864, issued an order that all violations of provost orders and persons arrested for theft, violation of public peace, oyster laws, etc., would be tried by the provost marshal,¹⁰² thereby depriving the civil courts of jurisdiction in felony cases under the state constitution.

After an arrangement had been made between the Confederates and the

Federals as to the exchange of prisoners of war, the former insisted that under this agreement the United States Army was under obligation to exchange the Confederate soldiers (members of the 39th Virginia Volunteers) still on the Eastern Shore. A representative of the United States War Department went to the Eastern Shore. He informed these former soldiers that if they "took the oath of allegiance to the Federal government, they would be regarded as loyal men, and that those who did not do so would be paroled and sent to City Point. The consequence was that over 200 took the oath, and it seems probable that nearly all will do so sooner than return to the South and subject themselves to conscription," so said an article in the *Baltimore American* of August 22, 1863.

On the same day President Lincoln addressed a letter to the Secretary of War about the matter. He wrote:

In the autumn of 1861 certain persons in armed rebellion against the United States within the counties of Accomack and Northampton, Virginia, laid down their arms upon certain terms then proposed to them by General Dix, in and by a certain proclamation. It is now said that these persons, or some of them, are to be forced into the military lines of the existing rebellion unless they take an oath prescribed to them since and not included in General Dix's proclamation referred to. Now my judgment is that no one of these men should be forced from his home who has not broken faith with the Government according to the terms fixed by General Dix. It is bad faith in a government to force new terms upon such as have kept faith with it—at least it seems to me.¹⁰³

Obviously this was another instance when the wishes of the President had little influence with Secretary Stanton, for on September 1, 1863, Lincoln wrote Stanton:¹⁰⁴

I am now informed, contrary to my impression when I had this up with you, that an order compelling the 400 on the Eastern Shore of Virginia to take the oath or be sent away is being carried into execution. As this and also the assessment for damages done to and at the lighthouse are very strong measures and as I have to bear the responsibility of them, I wish them suspended until I can at least be better satisfied of their propriety than I am now.

After the Virginia Eastern Shore was transferred to General B. F. Butler's department, he issued General Order No. 49, which seems to have required everyone—male and female—to take the oath of allegiance to the United States or to be sent into the Confederate lines. United States Military Records, Eastern Shore of Virginia, Lieutenant Colonel Frank J. White, commanding, Book No. 249, includes the names of many women in Accomack who took the oath, and in another section of the same volume are the names of 700 men. The time was between February 22 and October 7, 1864, for the women, and February 23 and April 18, 1864, for the men.¹⁰⁵ No Northampton names have been located.

No license to do business, permit to travel out of the counties, to operate a boat, to catch oysters, to practice law or medicine or to ship one's produce could be granted to any who had not taken the oath.

It is obvious though that many "had their fingers crossed" when they did.

Early in 1865 every male between the ages of 18 and 45 on the Virginia Eastern Shore was required to register for the draft, from which to supply soldiers to the Federal Army. There were, naturally, some who did not wish to do so, and among them was Reverend B. T. Ames, an inactive Methodist minister, one of whose daughters was the wife of the late Thomas C. Kellam, and the mother, among others, of Mrs. J. C. W. Leatherbury of Onancock. Reverend Mr. Ames gave a number of reasons for not registering, one of which that within a few months he would be 45, that he was a former drillmaster employed by General (then Colonel) Ewell, that he had been paroled by General Lockwood and that he accepted General Butler's Order No. 49, oath and parole but the support was a passive one. The provost marshal replied rather amusingly and at length in March, 1865. The following paragraph is taken therefrom:

All male inhabitants of this Shore (whether loyal or disloyal) between the ages of 18 and 45 must be enrolled. No exception is made. A man may be an invalid or a rebel deserter (who has learned wisdom from experience), ex-drill master of General Ewell or a minister of the Gospel; yet none of these will exempt him from enrollment. The Devil himself will be enrolled if found on this Shore and of the prescribed age. Any man claiming any of the above . . . as a cause for exemption will be allowed a hearing in case of draft or otherwise.¹⁰⁶

No information is available as to the number of Virginia Eastern Shoremen who served in the armed forces of the United States during the War of Secession. One company (Company A, First Regiment, Loyal Eastern Virginia Volunteers) was recruited in Accomack and Northampton, a majority from Chincoteague. While most of the enlistments occurred during the early winter of 1863-64, the company was not called into the United States service until June 30, 1864, when it occurred at Cobb's Island. Each private and non-commissioned officer received the usual \$100 bounty. Their duties seem to have been mainly patrol work in various parts of the Virginia Eastern Shore. On September 1, 1864, the muster was signed at Cobb's Island; on November 1, 1864, at Pungoteague. Other army records show that the company was sent to Drummondtown (Accomac) by Special Order No. 8 of June 26, 1865. It was mustered out at Fort Monroe on December 1, 1865.¹⁰⁷ Among its members was the late Captain Benjamin F. Scott (mustered out as a corporal), the colorful Chincoteague figure, who died there in 1944 at nearly 106.

There was a scattering of other Accomack and Northampton white men in the Federal forces. Among them was John Henry Nottingham, a nephew of Abel Parker Upshur, successively Secretary of the Navy and Secretary of State in the cabinet of President John Tyler. He was a graduate of Annapolis and served in the Navy until 1885, the year before having been made a rear admiral. He died in Washington in 1917, aged 94. (Another uncle was Commander George Parker Upshur, of the Navy, who died in 1852, and is buried at Vaucluse, near Bridgetown).

The number of colored men who served in the Union Army from the Virginia Eastern Shore is now undeterminable but probably in the neighborhood of one hundred.

A considerable number of those from Accomack and Northampton who were in the armed forces of the Confederacy held commissions. Former governor Henry A. Wise was a major general.

Soon after General Lee's surrender those who had served the Confederacy returned to the Shore. They were required to take the oath of allegiance to the United States.

Within a few months after the war's end nearly all of the Federal troops were removed. The few who remained—and there were some as late as August, 1866¹⁰⁸—seem to have been attached to the staffs of the United States Army officers administering the affairs of the Freedmen's Bureau. To this bureau was transferred by the Army the care of the ex-slaves and by the United States Treasury Department, confiscated lands. The bureau functioned until the end of 1868. Among other services to the Negroes was the establishment of a number of schools.

In June, 1864, the United States Treasury agent took over the "Law and Miscellaneous Library of Miers W. Fisher, found abandoned near Eastville, at "Pocohontas," when the owner went within the rebel lines."¹⁰⁹ There were 1,228 volumes. After the treasury agent had them boxed, to be shipped to Baltimore to be sold, he received a telegram to deliver them to Lieutenant Colonel Frank White, a subordinate of General B. F. Butler. Nothing has been discovered among the records as to what White did with them, but tradition is that they remained in Eastville and after the war were turned back to Mr. Fisher, who had lived in Bedford County from the adjournment of the Constitutional Convention, in which he had represented Northampton. It seems that Butler and Fisher had been friends before the war, and it was supposed that it was Butler's intervention that saved the library. Butler too was a lawyer. Fisher's farm, "Pocohontas," was the treasury agent's headquarters.

Spanish-American War (1898)—This war was relatively so short that it was over before there was need for many men. Elijah B. Tunnell, colored, of Atlantic District, killed in an engagement off Cardenas, Cuba, on May 11, 1898, while serving on the United States torpedo boat *Winslow*, was the first man to make the supreme sacrifice in that war.

World War I—"To make the world safe for democracy," the rallying cry throughout the United States in 1917-18, several hundred men from each of Virginia Eastern Shore's counties entered the armed forces of the nation, a majority of them serving on the high seas or in Europe. Approximately two score made the supreme sacrifice.

A bronze tablet on the courthouse at Accomack (placed there in 1934 by the Daughters of the American Revolution) bears the names of those from the upper county who died in that war for their country:

Lieutenant Vernon Lee Somers, Sergeant Bailey Stuart Ashby, Jr., Sergeant Clayton Thomas Evans, Corporal Laurence Summerfield Adams, Corporal Byron Clark Cugler, Corporal Joseph Thomas Phillips, Corporal Jesse Thomas Shield, Ensign Edward Walter Mears, and Privates Harry Scarborough Birch, Estel George Bloxom, Augustus Drummond Bonniwell, Frisby Ray Bowden, Burleigh Ray Chance, Tubman Lewis Crockett, William Laurel Crockett, Isaac Randolph Daisey, Lee Dulan Dennis, Eulas Simpson Ewell, Emory Ferguson, Coley Woodwen Gardner, Emanuel Joseph Hal-

vorsen, Homer Wendell Hastings, Ansley Hayward Holston, Claude James Matthews, Oscar Carroll Satchell, William Andrew Spurley, Allen Ray Watson; and Privates Charles Henry Bagwell, Samuel Bailey, Wilbert Parramore and Frank Sturgis who were colored.

The highest ranking officers from the Virginia Eastern Shore in that war were Brigadier General Beverly F. Browne and Commander Harry A. Parsons, West Point and Annapolis graduates, respectively.

The Second World War—In 1940, as an additional defense of the Chesapeake area, the United States War Department acquired the first of the 721 acres at Kiptopeke, the southern extremity of Northampton County, at Cape Charles, and on it there was erected the present Fort John Custis, a coast artillery fortification, at a cost of \$2,621,741.¹¹⁰ Lately it has been transferred to the Air Corps.

During 1942 there was constructed near Melfa, in Accomack County, a landing strip approximately one and one-half miles in length, designed to accommodate heavy bombers and other planes of both the Army and Navy in cases of emergency or otherwise.

The Chincoteague Naval Air Station, near Wisharts Point, in upper Accomack, was commissioned in March, 1943. Its cost, including land, was \$5,225,444.52.¹¹¹ It has been enlarged since the war's end. It is now an auxiliary air station.

Virginia Eastern Shoremen in this war served in virtually every section of the world where the Stars and Stripes at any time waved. In the "Gold Star Honor Roll of Virginians in the Second World War" are listed 76 from Accomack and 36 from Northampton who gave their lives for their country.

The highest ranking officer from the Virginia Eastern Shore was Clarence Ames Martin, a native of Accomack, and a member of the regular army. A graduate of Virginia Military Institute, at the beginning of World War I he was commissioned a captain. Lately he has been retired with the rank of major general, his rank while in active service in the Asiatic theater during the conflict.

14. TOWNS AND VILLAGES

A century and a half ago the Virginia Eastern Shore's communities were almost entirely on or not far from the bayside creeks or the seaside inlets. There were few villages in the center of the peninsula until after 1884, with the completion of the New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk Railroad; in fact when it began operating it passed through not a single village between New Church and the new town of Cape Charles.

It is obvious that the maritime and other commercial interests of these waterfront communities did not welcome the railroad to the Virginia Eastern Shore. Tradition is that the promoters of the railroad made a proposition to the business interests of Onancock for a track into that town but that the offer was rejected because it would deprive the owners of the many sailing craft of the revenues they were receiving from the transportation of produce and other commodities.

By the beginning of the twentieth century virtually all the schooners and other sailing vessels engaged in transportation between the local creeks and

inlets and Baltimore, New York and other cities—except at Chincoteague and Tangier islands—had ceased to operate, unable to compete with the faster steamboat service from the bayside creeks. By the 1930s the latter had succumbed to automobiles and trucks.

With the exception of Onancock there is hardly a bayside community on the mainland of the Virginia Eastern Shore that has not lost much of its former



(Photo Courtesy of Dr. John W. Robertson)

*"Onley," Home on the River of Ex-Gov. Henry A. Wise,
Onancock, Accomack County*

importance as a trading center; in fact many of them no longer exist. While the commercial sailing craft and the scheduled steamers no longer touch Onancock, large quantities of petroleum products and other commodities are waterborne to that town and it has become a distributing point of some consequence. It appears that it was not until the beginning of the twentieth century that it had a worthy rival as the lower peninsula's "first" retail shopping center; even now it draws many customers from both Accomack and Northampton despite the fine stocks carried at Parksley, Exmore, Cape Charles and other communities. In population Onancock is first on the mainland in Accomack.

At Onancock is undoubtedly Virginia Eastern Shore's oldest business organization. Hopkins & Brother, merchants, have been in continuous operation since January 1, 1842, when a partnership was formed by Stephen Hopkins, Sr., William H. A. Hopkins and John P. L. Hopkins. Its present owner is Addison F. Hopkins, a grandson of the last named of the original partners. Until the late 1870s this firm also operated a fleet of sailing vessels—at one time there

were nine—and these boats traded not only on the Chesapeake but to New York, Charleston and occasionally a trip was made to the West Indies. In 1878 most of the sailing vessels were disposed of and their wharf leased to the Eastern Shore Steamboat Company. The firm became the agents of the latter company and continued for it or its successors until 1935, when steamboat service between Onancock and Baltimore ceased to be operated.

Chincoteague Island, for a century Virginia Eastern Shore's largest marketer of shell fish, and in recent years of poultry—broilers—is first in population among the communities in Accomack and Northampton. It is believed to have been the first to engage in the private culture of oysters, which began in 1864. Though it has long been called the "sportsman's paradise," because of its fishing advantages, it is probably best known for the annual pony pennings, given nation-wide publicity by the press and the movies, and thousands and thousands of visitors, from both near and far, are attracted to it every summer. From a past now too remote to be determined, once each year these small animals that roam at will on Assateague Island have been rounded up, branded and then forced to swim the channel separating the islands. At Chincoteague they are paraded through the streets, a rodeo is held, the surplus stock is sold and the others driven back to Assateague to add another year to the centuries they and their ancestors have lived in a wild state on this Atlantic island.

Tangier Island is hardly less important as a seafood producer.

Parksley, Accomac (earlier Drummondtown), Wachapreague (earlier Powellton) and Belle Haven are the other incorporated towns in Accomack County. (Parksley, founded in 1885 by Henry R. Bennett and Samuel T. Jones of Dover, Delaware, and Rev. J. A. B. Wilson of Philadelphia, on a farm brought from Benjamin F. Parks, was platted and streets laid out and named before the lots were offered for sale, whereas almost every other community on the Virginia Eastern Shore—Cape Charles excepted and to a very limited extent Onancock and Accomac—if it has grown, has done so without much original planning. Later 400 acres of surrounding lands were added to the subdivision).

Other communities in Accomack with a population of not less than one hundred include Atlantic, Bloxom, Craddockville, Davis Wharf, Greenbackville-Franklin City, Hacks Neck, Hallwood, Harborton, Hopeton, Hopkins, Horn-town, Keller, Lee Mont, Locustville, Mappsville, Melfa, New Church, Oak Hall, Onley, Painter, Pungoteague, Saxis, Tasley, Temperanceville.

Cape Charles, the largest town on the mainland of the Virginia Eastern Shore, was founded by William L. Scott, of Erie, Pennsylvania, soon after the coming of the railroad, and in 1886 the Virginia General Assembly granted it a charter, with Carl H. Wallridge as mayor, and George W. Russell, Beverly T. Fitchett, George W. Widgeon, B. F. Kellogg, Severn B. Travis and Lemuel E. Mumford as councilmen. During the third decade of the twentieth century the corporate limits of the town were extensively expanded and much of the remaining Scott Estate and the railroad terminal and other properties embraced therein.

Eastville and Exmore are the other incorporated towns in Northampton, charter having been granted the latter in 1948. The Exmore-Willis Wharf section has had a steady growth for about a generation, which has accelerated during the last decade, Exmore now being regarded as one of the important shopping towns on the Virginia Eastern Shore. Ocean pound fishing on an extensive scale by Captain James A. Marion, the Walker Brothers and the Bal-

lard Brothers, with headquarters at Willis Wharf, and the marketing in great volume of oysters from private and public beds by Messrs. Terry, Walkers, Ballards and others were major factors in the growth of the twin-community during the first quarter of the twentieth century. Much grain was shipped from Willis (earlier Bigelow's) Wharf before 1875.

Unincorporated communities in Northampton of more than one hundred inhabitants are Franktown-Nassawadox, Wardtown, Jamesville, Bridgetown, Marionville, Birds Nest, Machipongo, Cheriton, Oyster, Bay View and Capeville. (The shell fish industry at Oyster is extensive throughout the year, and the aggregate volume of oysters, clams and crabs marketed therefrom greater than from any place on the Virginia Eastern Shore except Chincoteague Island).

Northampton's popular bayside bathing resorts are Silver Beach in Occohannock Neck and Wilkins Beach near Eastville. At the former are numerous cottages and at the latter a hotel.

Until the beginning of the second decade of the twentieth century one hotel—occasionally two—was the boast of virtually all the towns and larger villages on the Eastern Shore, almost all of them without modern conveniences as we know them today. The writer remembers that such were operated at Cape Charles, Eastville, Nassawadox, Exmore, Belle Haven, Pungoteague, Keller, Onley, Onancock, Accomac, Parksley, Bloxom, Makemie Park, and Chincoteague, and perhaps there were others.

Commercial travelers, chiefly from Baltimore and Norfolk, had virtually no means of calling on the merchants except by use of horse-drawn vehicles, which they engaged at the railroad stations or steamboat wharves, to carry them and their samples. With dirt roads and the relatively few miles that could be traveled in a day under such conditions, hotels short distances apart were a necessity. While with the improvements in the automobile there was more rapid movement even over such highways, many of these houses continued to be well patronized until the advent of concrete and other hard-surfaced roads (in the late 1920s), after which, except in the larger towns, almost all of them were closed because of lack of patronage.

15. MISCELLANEOUS

Light Houses and Life Saving Stations—The Virginia Eastern Shore's oldest light houses are at Assateague and on Smith's Island. It was in 1827 that a light house was built on the latter; and it was rebuilt in 1895. It is a tower 180 feet high. The one on Assateague Island, towering 154 feet, was first built in 1833 and rebuilt in 1867. The old light house on Hog Island, built in 1852 of brick, was, in 1896, replaced by one of skeleton steel 180 feet high, and located about two miles west of the masonry structure. The new site was then in a heavily wooded section. In 1948, when, due to the undermining of its foundation by the encroachment of the sea, the tower was demolished, it was surrounded by marshy land, dead trees and tree stumps. So ruthless has been the sea that this once large and populous island is now uninhabited except by the Coast Guard.

The white tower on Little Watts Island, on the Chesapeake Bay side of Accomac, erected in 1833, still stands but long it has been without a keeper, an automatic flashing light taking its place. The nearby and once inhabited larger island of the same name, which was farmed after the War Between the States, is now occupied only by wild life.

Before the beginning of the War of Secession there was a lighthouse at the mouth of Pungoteague Creek; also one at the entrance of Occohannock, according to a dispatch from Baltimore, to the *New York Herald*, dated November 21, 1861. The news article stated that these lights had been put out of commission by the Confederates. We have found nothing to indicate that they ever were restored.¹¹⁴

Coast Guard or life saving stations were authorized to be established at Assateague Beach, Wachapreague Station (south end of Cedar Island), Hog Island, Cobb's Island and Smith's Island in 1874 and Pope's Island in 1878, and Wallop's Beach, Metompkin Inlet and Parramore's Beach in 1882.¹¹⁵

Courthouses—The present courthouse, dedicated in 1900, replaces one erected in 1759, near the same site in Accomac (then Drummondtown).

In 1899 Northampton erected its present combined courthouse and clerk's office, to take the place of one erected in 1730. The latter is now owned by the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities.

Custom Houses—The District of Cherrystone, authorized in 1799, included not only Northampton and Accomack counties but all of Maryland from ocean to bay south of Delaware, with Cherrystone as the port of entry and Snow Hill and Folly Landing were ports of delivery. In 1862 Chincoteague was made a port of entry with the deputy residing there. The law required the collector to reside at Cherrystone. It was not until 1913 that the District of Cherrystone was discontinued. Chincoteague, however, remained a customs port of entry until 1933. Cape Charles is now the port of entry for the Virginia Eastern Shore.

Banks—The First National Bank of Onancock was the first bank established on the Virginia Eastern Shore—in 1893 with a capital of \$50,000. The first in Northampton was that of the L. E. Mumford Banking Company at Cape Charles. Other banks in Accomack and Northampton are the Bank of Chincoteague; Hallwood National; Metompkin Bank & Trust at Parksley and Bloxom; Eastern Shore Citizens at Accomac, Onancock, Keller and Painter; Farmers & Merchants National at Onley; Peoples Trust at Exmore; National Bank of Northampton at Nassawadox, and the Northampton County Trust at Cape Charles.

18th and 19th Century Homes—A number of the lovely homes of the eighteenth and first half of the nineteenth century have been preserved or have been restored to their original grandeur. Among them are Chincoteague, overlooking Chincoteague Bay, near Horntown; the Wharton Place, on Assawaman Creek, near Mapps ville; Mt. Custis, on Parker's Creek, near Accomac; Bowman's Folly and The Folly on Folly Creek, near Accomac; the Hills Farm, near Accomac; Rural Hill, Roseland and the Episcopal rectory, in Accomac; the Kerr Place in Onancock; Shepherd's Plains, on Nandua Creek, near Pungoteague; Warwick, in Upshur's Neck, near Quinby; Brownsville, near Nassawadox; Prospect Hill, near Machipongo; Chatham, near Bridgetown; Vaocluse on, and Cedar Grove near Hungars Creek; Cessford in Eastville; Cherry Grove, Elkington, Eyre Hall, Eyreville, Kendall Grove and White Cliff, near Eastville.

The extent and beauty of the boxwood gardens at Eyre Hall are surpassed probably only by those in the grounds of the restored colonial capital at Williamsburg.

Unusual Epitaph—It seems not to have been uncommon on the Virginia Eastern Shore during the first half of the nineteenth century for relatives or friends to record in stone the virtues of those who had departed this life. One of unusual interest is in a graveyard on the former William Andrews farm, at the head of Nandua Creek, perhaps half a mile, in an air line, from the village of Pungoteague. The inscription on the marble slab reads:

Here repose the bodies of Doct. John Upshur, son of Littleton and Anne Upshur. He died on the 15th day of May, A.D., 1818, aged 26 years, and his wife Lucy Upshur, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Parker. She died 29th April, A. D., 1818, aged 22 years.

They were lovely in their lives and in their death they are not divided.

The attachment of this amiable pair commenced in their early youth and continued with unabated tenderness for 15 years. They were united in marriage on the 15th day of April, 1818, and on the 29th day of the same month the warm-hearted bridegroom saw himself a widower. His manly spirit which had borne itself under all other calamities bowed beneath this stroke. After an unavailing struggle of eighteen days, he found his only relief from despair and a broken heart in a voluntary death.

Reader: Waste not your moments in fruitless speculation on the manner of his death. The tears of a whole community attest his worth: the widow, the orphan, the poor, the oppressed, those whom his unbought benevolence protected and soothed shall be his intercessors before the throne of God.

Ill fated pair: your bridal robes are your winding sheet, your bridal couch the grave!

Peace to thee, meek and gentle spirit!

Peace to thee, broken hearted martyr of a tender passion!

In heaven your virtues are recorded and there shall you rest together in the bosom of your Savior and your God.

The body of Dr. Upshur, according to family tradition, was found on her grave, shot through the heart. Among his papers was a request that her grave be opened and that he be buried at her side; and this was done.

Dr. Upshur and his wife were first cousins. His mother was a sister of Captain Parker, the father of Lucy. There is a tradition that the epitaph was written by his brother, Abel Parker Upshur, later Secretary of State.

Hospital—The Virginia Eastern Shore's only hospital is the Northampton-Accomack Memorial Hospital, a non-profit institution, opened in 1928, equipped to care for 35 patients. In 1945, through a Federal appropriation of \$128,000, an addition was completed, and it can now accommodate 72 adult patients and 18 bassinets. Among other equipment is a completely equipped department of Roentgenology, installed by the General Electric X-Ray Corporation at a cost in excess of \$25,000. It maintains a School of Nursing. The hospital is located at Nassawadox, in Northampton County. To October 1, 1949, it had cared for 31,102 patients (white and colored) since its door were opened.

The Keller Fair—One of Virginia's Eastern Shore's most popular institutions is the "Keller Fair," reputed to be the oldest continuous agricultural fair in the United States. This four-day meet, held late in August each year, under the auspices of the Eastern Shore Agricultural Fair Association, is the outgrowth of the

occasional all-day picnics, with free lunch, provided by the Eastern Shore Grange, formed in 1875, at the old Margaret Academy building at Bobtown by George Adams, Leonard H. Ames, Sr., Henry Battaile, Judson Kellam, William T. Killmon, William T. Mason, Wesley Phillips, Benjamin W. Mears and others as a local chapter of the Patrons of Husbandry, a national secret organization of farmers for altruistic purposes, organized in 1867.¹¹²

In 1878 the Grangers exhibited some of the products of their farms at the Turlington Camp Ground, a short distance from the present site of the fair grounds, a mile or so northeast of the present village of Keller (which then did not exist), and a year later repeated, extending the exhibition to two days. No racing of course was permitted and there was objection by some to the parading of colts on these grounds dedicated to revival and other religious purposes. In 1880 the Grangers leased a part of the present site—from time to time enlarged—erected a Grange Hall and laid out a race course, now and for almost all the years since one of the most popular half-mile dirt tracks in the Middle Atlantic states.

The ever increasing display of the products of the farms, the homes and the schools and the wide variety of wholesome entertainment for age and youth alike, including exciting contests among the harness horses, have done much to popularize the "Old Fair" during the three score and ten years of its existence. Yet to thousands of present and former residents of Accomack and Northampton it is always the "Old Home Week" where, under the shade of its stately pines and oaks, friends of other days and of different sections meet and reminisce.

From its inception the Keller Fair has been the outlet of the vast number of Virginia Eastern Shoremen who raised horses with a promise of speed. It has provided a track where these pacers and trotters could be trained and raced.

For a generation after the founding of the Keller Fair—before the automobile had come into universal use and there were still only dirt roads on the Virginia Eastern Shore—it was the ambition of almost every young man to own a fast roadster. Indulgent fathers supplied it by giving their sons promising colts. The result was speed in tumble carts or between buggy shafts and racing on every piece of suitable road. It was not unique for farm and carriage horses to be entered in the races at "Keller," often with satisfactory results. There was judicious breeding and many of the animals were descendants of such well-known nineteenth century harness horses as Goldsmith Maid, Stranger, Rysdyk's Hambletonian, Walker Morrell, Clay and others.

Sidney Prince, owned by Dr. Fred and William Floyd of Bridgetown, was by far the most outstanding sire ever in service on the Shore.¹¹³

Around the turn of the century the (then) fast horses racing at the Keller Fair included Gray Eagle, White Tips, Sport, Goldbur, Little Guy, the well-known stallion Bursar, and Lamp Girl, the last with a record of 2:14 $\frac{3}{4}$. About 1902 she was purchased by a non-resident and raced very successfully in the Grand Circuit, reducing her record to 2:09 before she was again sold and sent to Europe. She was the first Eastern Shore bred horse to make a record of 2:10 or better and in the year in which it occurred only two other horses in the Grand Circuit did likewise, according to the newspapers of that period. This fast trotter, owned by James R. Bull, probably was the smallest harness horse of like speed ever to be raised on the Virginia Eastern Shore.

Harness horses of more recent years which have been owned—sometimes bred or foaled—on the Virginia Eastern Shore and which raced not only at the Keller Fair but in the Grand Circuit include:

Hail Worthy (trotter), 2:05½, owned by Turlington Brothers, Fair Oaks, the largest money winner ever raised or owned on the Virginia Eastern Shore.

My Man (pacer) 2:03¾, was next to lower the Eastern Shore record. Bred, owned, raised and raced by Dr. John A. Turlington, he started 110 times without being out of the money. He was driven chiefly by the late William L. Bull of Melfa, the Shore's most outstanding driver and one of the country's largest race winners.

Sallie D. Scott (pacer) 2:03, owned by the late William L. Bull, lowered the Keller Fair track record to that figure, which still stands.

Jane Azoff (pacer) 1:59½, bred by Milton Turlington of Melfa, is the only two-minute horse ever bred on the Shore; she though was not Shore owned during her racing career.

Morgan Hanover (pacer) 2:00, bought as a yearling from Hanover (Pennsylvania) Shoe Farms and owned by Dr. John A. Turlington of Melfa, a three-year old, is the only Eastern Shore owned horse ever to go in two minutes, and the second three-year old gelding of all time to enter the select list.

Fifteen thousand dollar horses, while not numerous, are not unusual on the Virginia Eastern Shore now.

Horse racing long has been a favorite sport on the Virginia Eastern Shore, though when it had its first circular track is uncertain. The Accomack County Court records show a plat of a race course near Pungoteague, laid out in 1835. In 1856 the *Baltimore Sun* carried advertisements of a steamer excursion from Baltimore to Pungoteague Creek for the races at Belle Haven. A race track on the McConnell farm at Pungoteague antedated the Keller Fair.

During the late 1890s for several years the Chesapeake Agricultural Association held a four-day agricultural fair, with races, at Cape Charles, while the Peninsula Fair Association held a similar meet at Tasley during the first two decades of the twentieth century.

The Central Fair Association, an organization of colored people, has a substantial plant at Tasley, where for more than forty years it has held an annual fair and race meet lasting several days.

Tourist Facilities—For more than three quarters of a century people from other States and other parts of the Old Dominion have been coming to the Virginia Eastern Shore for fishing, hunting, recreation, rest and good food.

Where was the first hotel catering to sportsmen and vacationists, we do not know. Perhaps one was on Tangier Island just before the War of Secession. In advertising it for sale in the *Baltimore Sun* (July 19, 1862) it was called the Chesapeake House.

Cobb Brothers operated an extensive resort hotel and cottages on Cobb's Island from at least as early as 1867 to the middle 1890s. (Storms and relentless erosion by the sea have reduced this island, a century ago seven miles long and three miles wide, to a narrow strip of sand and marsh, now occupied only by the Coast Guard.)

From an advertisement in the *Baltimore Sun* of June 9, 1868, we learn that there was a bowling alley, a billiard room, "and a band of music has been arranged for. . . . The table arrangements, which gave general satisfaction last year, will be further improved, having engaged the best cook in Virginia, with first class, at-

tentive service. . . . No accident from surf bathing has ever taken place at this beautiful beach. The shooting and fishing advantages are unequalled on this continent. . . . Terms \$3 a day; \$18 a week; \$60 a month."

The hotel register, from 1874 to 1882, indicates an extensive patronage from Baltimore, Washington and Richmond, with occasional visitors from the North, far South and the Pacific Coast states. A count, countess and their child, from Paris, and an Englishman, congressmen, judges and leading bankers and business men were among the guests listed on the register, which this writer has had the opportunity of seeing.

Among the resorts advertised in the *Baltimore Sun* of July 25, 1875, was the Battle Point hotel, in Occohannock Neck, Northampton County. ". . . This desirable and pleasant watering place will be kept open all fall. The fishing in August and September cannot be surpassed. The point is entirely free from fever and ague. It is a very desirable location for families to spend most of the year. Besides the splendid bathing beach, the hotel is furnished with steam and hot salt water baths, so efficacious in rheumatic complaints. Terms \$10 and \$12 a week . . . George J. Wilson, Proprietor." Miss Margaret Malana Twyford, of Wardtown, in "Bits of History from Occohannock Neck Settlers."¹¹⁶ mentions this hotel, stating that it was built "by a Northern man named Booth, who built a large pier and places for amusement. . . . People came in boats from far and near to watch the boat racing. . . . One of the outstanding boat races was between a canoe called Dolly Vordon and the skiff called Janie. The former won and for a long time it was known as the Dolly Vordon race. The skiff is now in Upshur's boat-house at Brownsville. Some other places of amusement were ten-pin alleys and other places for women to play croquet."

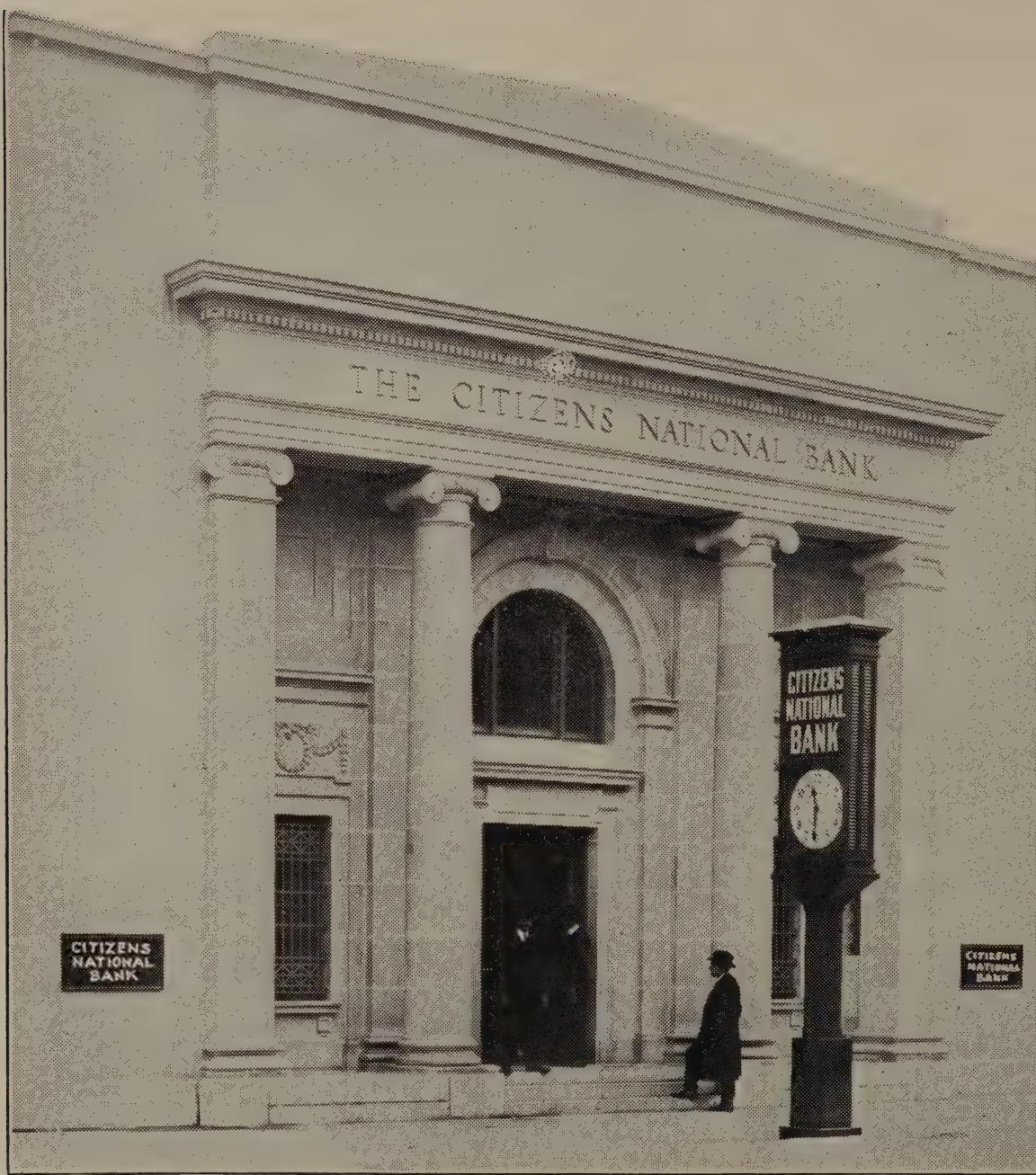
Small hotels were operated during the latter years of the nineteenth century, for the accommodation of summer visitors, at Metompkin Beach and at Cedar Island, and on the latter during the first decade of the present century. Their patronage, for the most part, came from the Eastern Shore.

Private club houses to accommodate members who liked shooting and fishing were maintained by northern residents at Wallops Island, Hog Island and elsewhere on the seaside of the Virginia Eastern Shore. Among the distinguished visitors who did wildfowl shooting from Hog Island was the one-time president, Grover Cleveland.

While Chincoteague was visited by many sportsmen almost half a century before that island was connected with the Eastern Shore mainland by the highway, its hotels depended more on the commercial trade for their patronage.

In 1902 the late A. H. Gordon Mears, a merchant and seafood dealer, erected at a cost of \$30,000 the present thirty-room Hotel Wachapreague, in his native community of Wachapreague, with the view of catering in particular to both deep sea and inlet fishermen. Judicious advertising in metropolitan newspapers and in sportsmen's magazines and good service and food for which the Eastern Shore is known far and wide soon were bringing to Hotel Wachapreague fishermen from many parts of the United States, and what skeptics had predicted as a "white elephant" became a successful business enterprise. Mr. Mears, with the aid of his wife, operated the hotel continuously until his death in 1944, and his heirs now conduct it.

The pioneer tourist court on the Virginia Eastern Shore was erected in 1931 by Charles F. Russell, earlier of Greenbush, in a lovely wooded area on United States Highway No. 13, between Accomac and Tasley. It is called "Whispering



The Citizens National Bank, Pocomoke City

(Courtesy of the Ba

Pines." Originally there were twelve individual cottages and a dining room. To meet the requirements of an ever increasing patronage, expansion was necessary, and now it is operated both as a motor court and hotel, with a much larger dining room, lounge, coffee shop and soda room in one, and 75 bedrooms, with telephones,

radios and other facilities for the comfort and convenience of the guests, who have come from every state in the Union and from several foreign countries. It is one of the best known motor courts on the "Ocean Highway" between New York and Florida.

Eastern Shore authors and others who have written about the Eastern Shore—
We list first the names of authors who were born on the Virginia Eastern Shore or who made their home in Accomack or Northampton, with the names of their publications if known:

Ames, Susie M.

Studies of the Virginia Eastern Shore in the Seventeenth Century (1940)

Colonna, Benjamin A. (1843-1924)

Nine Days on the Summit of Mount Shasta (1880)

The Transit of Venus (1883)

Crowson, Benjamin F. (1889-1938)

The V. M. I. Muse (1914)

English Fundamentals (1926)

Eastburn, James Wallis (Rev.) (1797-1819)

The Morning Star and Other Poems and Hymns (1819)

Jones, John Beauchamp (1810-1866)

The Monarchist (1853)

A Rebel War Clerk's Diary at the Confederate Capitals (1866) and numerous others. (*The Monarchist* is a tale of the Eastern Shore during the Revolutionary War, and there is mention of the Eastern Shore in the War Clerk's Diary)

Joynes, Edward S. (1834-1917)

Numerous text books

Joynes, Goodwin G. (1856-1932)

Uniform Grade Course for Use in Rural Schools (1904)

LeCato, Nathaniel J. W. (1835-1911)

Mahalinda (1858)

Theodosia and other poems (1871)

Aunt Sally's Boy Jack (1888)

Tom Burton, or the Days of 1861 (1888)

The Curse of Caste (1903)

Mears, James Egbert

Hacks Neck and Its People: Past and Present (1937)

Mears, John Neely

History of Tangier Island (1937)

Miller, Nora

The Girl in the Rural Family (1935)

Nottingham, Stratton (1887-1932)

Compiler of various court records in Accomack, Northampton, Lancaster, Mecklenburg, Westmoreland and Northumberland counties, including *Wills and Administrations of Accomack County, Virginia, 1663-1800* (1931)

Robinson, Calvin

Along the Shoreline (1931)

Ross, Ernest C.

Imperfect Sympathies, the Anguish of an Anglophile (1940)

The Ordeal of Bridget Elia (1940)

Upshur, Thomas T. (1844-1910)

Sir George Yeardley (or Yardley), Governor and Captain-General of Virginia and Temperance (West), Lady Yardley, and some of their descendants (1896)

Wallace, Adam (Rev.) (1825-1903)

The Parson of the Islands: A Biography of Rev. Joshua Thomas (1872)

Walker, Mabel Louise

Urban Blights and Slums (1938) and others

Williamson, Robert (Rev.) (deceased)

A Brief History of the Baptists of the Eastern Shore of Virginia (1878)

Wise, Henry Alexander (1806-1876)

Territorial Government and the Admission of New States (1859)

Seven Decades of the Union (1871)

Wise, Henry Alexander

Just Little Things and Other Poems (1933)

Wise, John Sergeant (1846-1913)

Diomed: The Life, Travels and Observations of a Dog (1897)

The End of an Era (1899)

The Lion's Skin (1905)

Recollections of Thirteen Presidents (1906)

Miss Anne Floyd Upshur and Mr. Ralph T. Whitelaw have in preparation a monumental history of the Virginia Eastern Shore from early colonial years to the middle of the nineteenth century.

Others who wrote about the Eastern Shore include:

Bowen, Littleton Purnell (Rev.) (1833-1933)

Days of Makemie (1885) and others

Byrd, William II (1674-1744)

William Byrd's Secret Diary 1709-12 (1941)

Earle, Swepson

The Chesapeake Bay Country (1923)

Henry, Marguerite

Misty of Chincoteague (1947)

Sea Star (1949) and many others

Johnston, Mary (1870-1936)

Drury Randall (1934) and many others

Mason, George Carrington

Colonial Churches in Tidewater Virginia (1947)

Meade, William (Bishop) (1789-1862)

Old Churches, Ministers and Families of Virginia (1857)

Page, I. Marshall (Rev.)

The Life Story of Rev. Francis Makemie (1938)

Torrence, Clayton (Rev.)

Old Somerset on the Eastern Shore of Maryland (1935)

Townsend, George Alfred (1841-1914)

The Entailed Hat (1884)

Wilstach, Paul

Tidewater Virginia (1929) and many others

Wise, Barton Haxall (1865-1899)

Life of General John Cropper

Life of Henry A. Wise 1806-1876 (1899)

Wise, Jennings Cropper

The Early History of the Eastern Shore of Virginia (1911)

Colonel John Wise of England and Virginia, His Ancestors and Descendants (1917)

Miss Frances Lankford Taylor, for many years connected with the schools at Onancock and Capeville, was a frequent contributor of articles about Eastern Shore history to the Richmond dailies and various historical magazines. She prepared the section about Accomack and Northampton counties included in Swepson Earle's *The Chesapeake Bay Country*.

Mr. Albert A. Richards, in earlier life a New York newspaper man but in more recent years a resident of the Virginia Eastern Shore, has kept his pen busy writing editorials and preparing material for special and anniversary editions.

Miss Mary Bull of "Thornfield," near Pungoteague, was a novelist of local note in the years after the War Between the States, and published one or more books. They are now out of print and their titles are not remembered.

Mr. Thomas T. Upshur, in his day, was the foremost authority on the early history of the Virginia Eastern Shore. His address at dedication of the court house at Accomac in June, 1900, aroused in this writer, then a lad, an Eastern Shore's past which is unabated.

1. Report of Lieut. George H. French, dated April 16, 1866. Freedmen's Bureau Book 149, Eastern Shore of Virginia, p. 35 (National Archives, Washington, D. C.).

2. *Sectionalism in Virginia, 1776-1861*, pp. 144, 172, 222

3. *Ibid.*, p. 93.

4. *Ibid.*, p. 130.

5. *Baltimore Sun*, November 15, 1848.

6. *Baltimore Sun*, Nov. 8, 1856.

7. An address delivered at the dedication of the courthouse at Accomac in June, 1900, *Eastern Shore News*, Jan. 25, 1935.

8. *Richmond Daily Whig*, Nov. 17, 19, 1860.

9. General Orders, First Military District of Virginia, National Archives.

10. Thomas H. Bayly was a son of Thomas Monteagle Bayly. The former and Henry Wise were cousins. T. H. Bayly Browne was a grandson of T. M. Bayly and a nephew of T. H. Bayly.

11. Rev. John Lyon, rector of St. George's Parish, was tried by a military court in Accomack and found guilty of giving aid to the British during the Revolutionary War. (Virginia Calendar of State Papers, II).

12. *Eastern Shore News*, May 17, 1935.

13. Rev. Adam Wallace, *The Parson of the Islands* (Philadelphia, 1872).

14. Wise, *Seven Decades of the Union*.

15. *Peninsula Enterprise*, August 22, 1891.

16. *Eastern Shore News*, July 19, 1935.

17. Judge Scarborough was from the Boggs Chapel section. Judge S. T. Ross, "Recollections of Bench and Bar," *Eastern Shore News*, Jan. 25, 1935.

18. Military Records of the Eastern Shore of Virginia, Book 249, in National Archives.

19. *Public and Private Correspondence of B. F. Butler*, III, p. 576.
20. Rev. William G. Coe.
21. *Brief History . . . of the Baptists on the Eastern Shore of Virginia* (1878).
22. Webster defines antinomianism as "the doctrine that faith frees one from the obligation of the moral law."
23. Atlantic Female College, then on the site of the present Onancock High School.
24. Book 249, Eastern Shore of Virginia Federal Forces, National Archives, Washington, D. C.
25. Other churches so occupied were Downing's Methodist (Oak Hall), Drummondtown Methodist (Accomac), Makemie Presbyterian (Accomac), and the Methodist (Pungoteague), across the road from St. George's.
26. House Report 97, Vol. A, 2nd Sess., 63rd Congress, 1913-14, p. 204 *et seq.*
27. Book 246 (No. 124), "Letters and Special Orders, 1864-5, Provost Marshal, U. S. forces, Eastern Shore of Virginia."
28. House Report 97, Vol. A, 2nd Sess., 63rd Congress, 1913-14, p. 204 *et seq.*; and U. S. Statutes, 63rd Congress (38), Part 1, Public Laws, H. R. 8846, 3rd Session, Chapter 140, 1915.
29. Barton H. Wise, *Henry A. Wise, 1806-76* (1899).
30. *National Recorder*, February 15, 1861.
31. Rev. Robt. Williamson in *A Brief History . . . of the Baptists on the Eastern Shore of Virginia*. One of the teachers was the late Mr. Henry Battaile, an alumnus of the University of Virginia, later a well-known educator on the Eastern Shore.
32. Virginia Brittingham, "McMaster Old Home Essay," in *Peninsula Enterprise*, July 16, 1948.
33. Peale and Gen. John Cropper, Mrs. Tiffany's great-grandfather, fought with Gen. Washington during the Revolutionary War. After it ended Gen. Cropper commissioned Peale to paint the portrait, for which Gen. Washington sat.
34. University of Virginia correspondence.
35. *Eastern Shore News*, May 15, 1942.
36. Eastern Shore Military Records—Register of Visitors and Purpose of Visit 1865—National Archives.
37. Nelson Marshall, Director, Virginia Fisheries Laboratory.
38. The types of sailing craft that predominated during the first half of the nineteenth century on the Chesapeake Bay were the log canoe, brogan, sloop and schooner. After 1840 the puny appeared. Bugeyes came shortly after the Civil War, and the skipjack in the 1890s.—John L. Lockhead, Librarian, Mariners' Museum, Newport News, Virginia.
39. The law defined a packet as "a boat with accomodations for passengers, horses, carriages, etc., of at least twenty-five tons burthen."
40. The present "Tar Kill" gut, on the north side of Pungoteague Creek, earlier was called "Underhill's Creek" as late as 1900 and it was deep enough to float vessels with a draft of at least six feet. On the opposite side of Pungoteague Creek, slightly to the east, were the John W. Hutchinson lands, and prior to 1860 on same was a wharf, called "Dock Point," the site of the present pier from which the Chesapeake Corporation loads pulp wood on large barges to be carried to West Point, Virginia.
41. John Sergeant Wise, *The End of an Era* (1899) p. 40.
42. *National Recorder* (published at Drummondtown), February 15, 1861.
42. Henry R. Parker's "McMaster Old Home Essay," in *Peninsula Enterprise*, August 8, 1935.
44. Parker (*supra*)
45. Anne Showard, "McMaster Old Home Essay," in *Peninsula Enterprise*, July 31, 1937.
46. Parker, of Northampton, was a member of Congress, 1819-21. Joynes of Accomack, was one of Virginia's most distinguished lawyers. It is thought that Waples and Grinnalds were Virginia Eastern Shoremen.

47. Letter of Frank J. White of April 6, 1865, to Thomas R. Joynes, (Jr.), Book 246, Eastern Shore Military Records.

48. The section about the N. Y., P. & N. R. R., its predecessors and successor, its ferry service, etc., is based on data supplied chiefly by Mr. J. Taney Wilcox, secretary of the Pennsylvania Railroad, Mr. Thomas E. Ralph, agent at Keller, Virginia since 1896, and the late John A. Byrd, who retired as chief train dispatcher in 1948, after 55 years with the N. Y. P. & N. and the Pennsylvania.

49. *Merchant Vessels in United States*, 1886.

50. *Ibid.*, 1905.

51. *Ibid.*, 1930.

52. J. Taney Wilcox, Secretary, Penn. R. R. Co.

53. W. Hardy Taylor, Sec.-Treas., Eastern Shore of Va. Produce Exchange.

54. *Virginia Dept. of Highways correspondence*, 1949.

55. *Ibid.*

56. *War of the Rebellion*, Series III, Vol. 5 (Serial No. 126), p. 362.

57. From the C&P Telephone Co. records.

58. See *Union List of Newspapers*, pp. 698, 704.

59. *Virginia Calendar of State Papers*, X.

60. Wallace, *The Parson of the Islands*, Chapter 9.

61. *Ibid.*

62. *Virginia Calendar of State Papers*, X.

63. *Ibid.*

64. *Ibid.*

65. *Ibid.*

66. *Ibid.*, The cannon captured by the British at Rumley's Gut, on Pungoteague Creek, is stated to have been a 4-pounder. There are two other references to a 6-pounder having been captured at Pungoteague. The Calendar of State Papers do not include any correspondence or reports showing the location of members of the 27th Regiment of Militia other than their activities at Cherryston harbor and Cape Charles in March, 1813.

67. Wallace, *Parson of the Islands*, Chapter 9.

68. John Beauchamp Jones, *A Rebel War Clerk's Diary at the Confederate Capitals* (1866), Dec. 7, 1861.

69. Official election returns, Clerk's Office at Eastville, Northampton County.

70. *Richmond Enquirer*, June 15, 1861. (4) *Baltimore Sun*, May 31, 1861.

71. *Delaware Republican*, Sept 12, 1861, reprinted from *Snow Hill* (Md.) *Shield*.

72. Letter of Judge Edward P. Pitts of — day of March, 1862, to the Virginia General Assembly, in State Archives, Richmond.

73. Address of J. G. Potts "To the People of Accomack and Northampton in General, and Particularly to the Mechanics, Tenants and Laborers," issued in pamphlet form in 1862.

74. In Pierpont Correspondence, State Archives, Richmond.

75. Lockwood's Correspondence, Book 84, p. 106 *et seq.*, National Archives, Washington.

76. Muster rolls of 39th Regiment of Virginia Volunteers, C. S. A., in National Archives, Washington, D. C.

77. *War of Rebellion: Official Records of Union and Confederate Navies*, VI, p. 288.

78. J. G. Potts' circular (*supra*).

79. *War of the Rebellion*, Series 1, Vol. 4, p. 699.

80. *Baltimore Sun*, January 27, 1862.

81. *War of Rebellion*, Series 1, Vol. 51, part 1, p. 457.

82. *Ibid.*, Series 1, Vol. 51, part 1, p. 457.

83. *Ibid.*, Series 1, Vol. 5, p. 432.

84. *Ibid.*, Series 1, Vol. 5, p. 434.

85. *Ibid.*, Series 1, Vol. 4, pp. 698, 699.

86. Entry on muster rolls of 39th Va. Volunteers, in National Archives, Washington, D. C.
87. In Accomack, in book marked "Muster Rolls." In Northampton, Deed Book No. 7, 1915-16, p. 389.
88. *War of the Rebellion*, Series 1, Vol. 5, p. 431.
89. *Ibid.*, p. 424.
90. General Dix had been U. S. senator from N. Y., elected as a Democrat. He was secretary of the treasury in Buchanan's cabinet, and in 1860 voted for Breckenridge, States Rights Democrat.
91. *Baltimore Sun*, Dec. 6-15, 1861.
92. *Official Records of the Senate and House of Delegates at Wheeling*, 1861-63.
93. Accomack Co. Order Book 1860-62, p. 488; Northampton Order Book 1857-65.
94. *War of Rebellion*, Series 1, Vol. 29, part 2, p. 563. Same, p. 571.
95. *Ibid.*, Series 1, Vol. 33, p. 433.
96. The state capital of "reorganized" Virginia was moved from Wheeling to Alexandria in 1863, that Virginia might comply with the constitutional provision to give Western Virginia permission to become West Virginia. Alexandria remained the capital until after General Lee surrendered, when it was returned to Richmond.
97. Eastern Shore Military Records, Book 246, Spl. Order No. 81, Frank J. White, Nov. 4, 1864.
98. *Ibid.*, Order No. 83, Nov. 5, 1864.
99. *Private and Official Correspondence of B. F. Butler*, Vol. 3, p. 321.
100. *Ibid.*, Vol. 5, p. 87.
101. Eastern Shore Military Records, Book 246, No. 114, Frank J. White, Dec. 3, 1864. Also U. S. Treasury Dept., 7th Agency, C. S. Henry to H. A. Risley, Jan. 5, 1865: "But Father Abraham, getting hold of a copy of the order, made an autograph endorsement on it, bidding him to revoke his order and hold no such election, and sent it to him by special Q. M. Express. . . ."
102. *Messages of Governors During Civil War* (Union). Pierpont's message to Legislature at Alexandria, Dec. 6, 1864 quoting White's Special Order No. 85, Nov. 9, 1864.
103. Nicolay & Hay *Letters and State Papers of Lincoln*, II, p. 394.
104. *Ibid.*, p. 402.
105. In National Archives, Washington, D. C.
106. Eastern Shore Military Records, Book 245, National Archives.
107. Muster Rolls, National Archives.
108. Virginia Freedmen's Bureau, Book 149, p. 110, National Archives.
109. Reports of C. S. Henry, U. S. Treas. Dept., 7th Spl. Agency, National Archives.
110. War Dept. correspondence.
111. Navy Dept. correspondence.
112. *Peninsula Enterprise*, 8-8-36.
113. Dr. John A. Turlington, Melfa, Virginia.
114. Frank Moore, *The Rebellion Record* (1861-1864), III, p. 407 *et. seq.* According to this dispatch, after Virginia seceded the Confederates dismantled these lighthouses, "the one on Watts Island;" also at Cape Charles, Smith's Island, Hog Island, "and one on Piney Point, east of Horntown."
115. *Peninsula Enterprise*, August 8, 1936.
116. "Peninsula Enterprise," June 16, 1934.

*The Eastern Shore of Maryland
and Its Institutions Today*

CHAPTER XXVIII

*County Government on The Eastern
Shore of Maryland*

*By William R. Howell**

County government on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, relatively, has an ancient and honorable history. Its origins lie in the system of local government that existed in England when colonial Maryland was settled. The county itself was, in general, a copy of the English county, and the local officials in Maryland were similar both in name and function to their prototypes in the mother country. The divisions of territory and the functionaries of government adopted by the colonists were the only ones which the early English settlers knew and it was but natural that they should attempt to transplant the English system on the shores of the new colony.

Maryland colonial government did not attempt to follow the exact pattern of local government in the old country. During the Saxon period in England, local government was divided into shires, hundreds, townships and boroughs. Following the Norman invasion the shires gave place to counties, and it was this unit of government which the colonists brought to America, and, apparently, which they thought would best serve their purposes in the new world.

While Maryland was originally a proprietary colony, with a high degree of centralized government, there was a strong tendency towards democracy among the inhabitants. The group which landed at the Isle of St. Clements (later called Blackiston's) was composed of "twenty gentlemen adventurers and three hundred laborers." As early as 1637 government in the colony was composed of a Governor and Council which sat with a General Assembly, consisting of all the freemen of the Province or their proxies. In the course of time the principles of democracy grew, and ultimately came to be the dominant influence among the inhabitants of the colony.

It is generally admitted that the best way to learn to do is by doing. On the basis of this principle the practice of democracy has a high educative value. Ideas of rights and duties, privileges and responsibilities, freedom and justice are certainly enhanced when men are learning to govern, or learning how to be governed by their neighbors. Local government is a school of citizenship whose educative effectiveness is measured by the extent to which all members of the community participate. It is unfortunate for any group of people when they lose interest in matters of their own local concern, for such loss of in-

*Dr. Howell has been a member of the Faculty of Washington College since 1921, teaching classes in Political Science, Economics and Sociology. In 1947 he was appointed by Governor Lane to the office of Trial Magistrate for Kent County, for a term of two years. He was reappointed in 1949 for another two year term. Dr. Howell is also the author of a book entitled *The Government of Kent County, Maryland*.

terest constitutes direct evidence of decay and ultimate death of the spirit of democracy. It has been the universal experience of mankind that rights have to be striven for, even though some rights are claimed to be "inalienable."

The tree of liberty was planted early on the shores of Maryland, and was nurtured through the first period of colonial history by a large degree of direct participation in government by the freemen of the colony. During later years representative government was adopted as the less expensive and more serviceable form. There were times in the history of colonial Maryland when the flame of freedom burned low, but it was never completely extinguished, and the spirit of local self-government never lost entirely the foothold it had gained through struggle and sacrifice. Through local elections, and representation in the General Assembly, the spark of democracy was kept alive.

The Eastern Shore of Maryland has always been predominantly rural. No large city has ever grown up in its midst. It was natural, therefore, that county government should be the form adopted by the Colony, and continued by the State. Through their sharing of the privileges and responsibilities of local self-government, as afforded by the county system, the people of the Eastern Shore have developed great skill in political astuteness. Former Representative T. Alan Goldsborough (now Judge Goldsborough) once told the writer that he would be willing to give the people of any other section of the country "cards and spades," and the people of the Eastern Shore would beat them in the game of politics. Many citizens of the Shore have played prominent parts in State and National affairs.

Originally, there was only one county on the Eastern Shore, namely Kent County (1642). In 1661 Talbot County was erected on the south of Kent, and in 1674 Cecil County was formed in the northern part of the Shore. In the meantime, Somerset had been erected in 1666, and Dorchester in 1668. Next in order of establishment was Queen Anne's in 1706. Then came Worcester in 1742, and Caroline in 1773. Last of all, "as one born out of due season," Wicomico County was formed in 1867. It was created by the Constitution which was adopted that year, and is composed of parts of Somerset and Worcester counties. The largest of the nine Eastern Shore counties is Dorchester which contains 580.94 square miles, while Kent is the smallest, with only 283.36 square miles. The total area of the nine counties is 3,389.56 square miles. According to the 1940 decennial census, the several county governments of the Eastern Shore serve a total population of only 195,427.

STRUCTURE—The county in Maryland is the creature of the State. It is subject to the will of the State Legislature in regard to changing county lines, locating and removing county seats, and increasing or reducing the number of county officials. But in the formation of new counties out of portions of two or more then in existence, the consent of a majority of the legal voters of such part of each of the counties involved, respectively, must be obtained. Nor can the Legislature change the boundary line of any county without the consent of a majority of the qualified voters of the district which, under the proposed change, would form a part of a county different from that to which the district belonged prior to the change.¹

As the agent of the State Government the county serves the State in the following important functions:

- (1) It is an area for the administration of justice.
- (2) It is the unit of representation in the General Assembly (the

State Legislature), and as such, participates in the enactment of all laws necessary for the government of the State in general, and also for the local units, such as counties and municipalities.

(3) It is the local unit for the organization of the State Militia.

(4) The counties conduct elections for both state and county officials and other purposes, such as referenda for the approval or disapproval of certain laws passed by the Legislature, and constitutional amendments.

(5) Public Education is conducted by the counties, subject to over-all control by the State Board of Education.

(6) The county is the agent of the state in the matter of assessing and collecting property taxes.

(7) The county serves as the unit of territory in the operation of the states public health program.

(8) The county is the unit for the operation of the public welfare program, in co-operation with the State and Federal governments.

In addition to serving the state government in the above mentioned capacities, by constitutional and statutory provisions, the counties in Maryland are the territorial units for purposes of local self-government.

Throughout the more than three hundred years of Maryland's colonial and state history county government has passed through an interesting metamorphosis. During the colonial period most of the county officers were appointed by the Governor and Council, following rather closely the English practice. When the colony became a State all of the county officers, except the Sheriff, continued to be appointed. As time went on, more and more of the county officers came to be elected by the voters of the counties. At the present time the most important officials of the counties are elected, while those considered of lesser importance are appointed by the Governor of the State.

It is important to note that the state and local functions of the counties are so closely interwoven and interrelated that it is difficult to draw any sharp line of demarcation between them. The present status of the counties in the system of state government is that of duality of function, and is the result of an evolutionary process rather than one of deliberation and planning.

Originally, counties had no standing except that of territorial subdivisions of the colony or state. They had no corporate entity and exercised no corporate powers as such. In 1804, by Act of the General Assembly, the Levy Courts of the several counties were incorporated, and were given all the rights and prerogatives of a corporation, within the limits of that Act. The counties may thus be considered quasi-corporations, exercising corporate functions, yet subject to the will of the Legislature in certain definite ways. According to law the county commissioners, as a corporate body, may sue or be sued, hold title to property in the name of the county, collect moneys and expend the same, and perform the functions generally appertaining to a legal corporation.

County government on the Eastern Shore is highly decentralized and relatively disintegrated. There is no designated head official in any county to whom all other officials are responsible. There is a wide division of function and distribution of powers. The fact that some county officials are elected while others are appointed tends to diversify and scatter responsibility. Each officer or set of officials has powers and duties defined by law, and is responsible to the State first of all, and then to the people of the county. The func-

tions performed by various county officials are wholly administrative under the state and local laws enacted by the General Assembly. In most cases officials of the county may use very little, if any, discretion. The amount that may be used depends upon the relative importance of the office.

The organization of the government of the Eastern Shore counties is based on the type of functions performed as well as the method by which any particular office is filled. On the basis of function, the most important are: Administration of finances; administration of justice; administration of public education; administration of elections; administration of public health; administration of public welfare; and the administration of liquor control. There is no Legislative Department for county governments in Maryland. All laws pertaining to counties are enacted by the General Assembly under the title of local laws for each county. The counties are represented in the General Assembly by one Senator and two or more members of the House of Delegates, according to population. Strictly speaking, these are State officials, and serve in the dual capacity of State and county representatives. On the basis of method of filling offices, there are two methods employed, namely, by election and by appointment.

Considering first how the various offices are filled, Senators and members of the House of Delegates in the General Assembly, the State's Attorney, the Clerk of the Circuit Court, the Sheriff, the Register of Wills, the County Treasurer, the County Commissioners, Judges of the Orphans' Court, and County Surveyors are elected by the qualified voters of each county at quadrennial elections held throughout the State. Trial Magistrates, Justices of the Peace, and/or Committing Magistrates, Supervisors of Elections, and County Boards of Education are appointed by the Governor, with the consent of the Senate.

The administration of Liquor Control is effected through Liquor License Commissions and Liquor Control Boards, whose appointment is provided for by local laws for each county. In Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, and Kent counties the County Commissioners compose *ex-officio* License Boards. In Queen Anne's and Somerset counties the State Appeal Board acts in place of County License Commissioners. Talbot County has a License Commission. Wicomico and Worcester counties have Control Boards. (Maryland Manual, 1948-1949, pp. 214, 215). The Deputy Health officer for each county receives his appointment from the County Commissioners subject to approval by the State Department of Health. The members of the County Welfare Board are appointed by the State Board of Public Welfare upon nomination by the County Commissioners. There is a Supervisor of Assessments for each county. These officials receive their appointments from the State Tax Commission, and strictly speaking are state officers, though the work of each one is confined to the county for which he is appointed. In each county there is a Clerk to the County Commissioners who is appointed by the Commissioners. There is also a County Road Engineer, appointed by the County Commissioners.

The county governments of the Eastern Shore are not absolutely uniform in structure. With respect to elective officers, Wicomico County has five Commissioners while the remaining eight counties have three each. Not all of the counties have a Surveyor. Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's, Talbot and Worcester counties have no Surveyor. Coroners, originally appointed by the Governor for each county, have been supplanted by a Deputy Medical Examiner. Six of the nine counties have Liquor Control Boards. In these counties a Liquor Dispensary system operates, for the purpose of selling hard liquors (in

packages), the profits from such sales accruing to the general funds of the counties in question.

The number of Trial Magistrates for each county varies with the county. Two of the Eastern Shore counties have four (Trial Magistrates), three counties have two, while the remaining counties have one each. All of the counties except one (Somerset) have a Substitute Trial Magistrate. Likewise, four of the nine counties have no Justice of the Peace, or Committing Magistrates.

All of the counties have three members of the Board of Education except two (Dorchester and Somerset), which have six each.

FUNCTION—On the basis of function, the groups of officials having to do with various types of administration will be considered in the order mentioned above.

ADMINISTRATION OF FINANCES—The County Commissioners are the responsible officials dealing with financial matters of the county. The Constitution of Maryland has very little to say on the subject of the powers and duties of County Commissioners. In Article VII, Section 1, it states that "their number in each county, their compensation, powers and duties shall be such as now or may be hereafter prescribed by law." From the Code we learn that the Commissioners are a corporation and as such they may perform the functions generally appertaining to a legal corporation. Their powers and duties are prescribed by law and, in general, they are rather strictly limited in the administration of the fiscal affairs of the county. They do have, however, some discretion in dealing with some matters: for example, what the tax rate shall be each year, and how much of the county moneys may be spent for certain purposes.

In general they have control of all county property, they levy all taxes for county purposes, determine the amounts to be spent, and order by warrant, certificates or check payment for each expenditure.

One important function of the Commissioners is the control and maintenance of county roads and bridges. In recent years the State Roads Commission has, by agreement with the counties, taken over control of many county roads, so that these have become a part of the State roads system. In some counties the State Roads Commission does practically all of the construction and repair work on roads and bridges, the County Commissioners acting in a consultation capacity. In such cases the County Road Engineer is usually an employee of the State Roads Commission as well as a county official. This plan of operation is generally considered to be more efficient than that of having the Commissioners be responsible for all of the road and bridge work of the individual county.

In matters of assessment of taxes the State Tax Commission exercises some supervision over county assessments, in that individual property owners may appeal to the State Tax Commission for adjustment of their assessments. As the Supervisor of Assessments for the county works in conjunction with the County Commissioners, there is seldom an occasion for such appeal.

In matters of Public Education the County Commissioners exercise very little control. They determine the amount of funds to be spent by the Board of Education in that they set the amount furnished by the county, and the State's contribution to the fund is determined by the county schools' conformity to a set of standards set up by the State Board of Education. This contri-



Aerial View of Business Section of Salisbury, Largest Metropolis on Maryland's Eastern Shore
(Photos by Perry-Pix, Salisbury)

bution is a part of the Equalization Fund controlled by the State Board of Education.

The Commissioners co-operate with the State Department of Public Welfare and the Federal Government in matters of Public Welfare. The Commissioners virtually set the amount of money to be spent in the county for this purpose, as the contribution of State and Federal departments is governed by the local contribution. One of the Commissioners always serves as a member of the County Welfare Board.

Likewise, the Commissioners co-operate with the State and Federal governments in matters of Public Health, as also in Agricultural Extension and Home Demonstration work by providing a portion of the salaries of the Deputy State Health officer, county nurses, the County Agricultural agents and the Home Demonstration agents.

The Commissioners must also provide funds for the administration of justice in the county. These include maintenance of the Court House and jail, Circuit Court salaries, pay for jurors and witnesses, Sheriffs' and deputies' salaries and expenses, salaries of Trial Magistrates and Justices of the Peace, the salary and expenses of the State's Attorney, and the Orphans Court.

The Commissioners also provide funds for several miscellaneous purposes, among which may be mentioned contributions to volunteer fire companies, hospitals, etc. In some counties the old system of homes for paupers, commonly called Alms Houses, is still maintained. A movement was initiated some years ago for the State to construct and maintain a central Alms House for the nine Shore counties. Because of local jealousies as to the location of this institution, and other reasons, the fulfillment of this plan remains a matter for the future.

Assisting the Commissioners in carrying out their functions as general managers of the counties' affairs are the Clerk to Commissioners, who keeps their books and conducts their correspondence; the County Treasurer, who collects the taxes and pays out all moneys on order; and the Clerk of the Circuit Court, who records all deeds, mortgages, bills of sale, and all other instruments which affect title to, or interest in, real or personal property. As mentioned above, the Supervisor of Assessments, and Assessors, where provided by law, render invaluable assistance in determining the value of all real and personal property in the county for taxation purposes.

Another important item of expenditure which must be provided by the County Commissioners is for the holding of elections. These occur every two years. The salaries of Supervisors of Elections, and Judges and Clerks of Elections are paid out of county funds. The nine counties on the Eastern Shore constitute the First Congressional District of Maryland, and a Representative is elected every two years. The counties participate in the election of a President of the United States every four years (in what is commonly known as "leap years"). The election of United States Senators for Maryland occurs irregularly, as the term of office for Senators is six years.

Every four years, falling halfway between Presidential election years, all State and County officers are elected in Maryland.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE—This is both a State and a County function, the County serving as an instrument of the State in this important work. Maryland is divided into eight Judicial Circuits, two of which are on the Eastern Shore. The four counties of the lower part of the Shore (Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester) constitute the First Judicial Circuit, and the

five counties of the upper part (Caroline, Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's and Talbot) make up the Second Circuit.

These courts are presided over by a bench of three judges, one Chief Judge and two Associates. The judges are elected by the voters of the counties comprising the Circuit, for terms of fifteen years. By Constitutional provision no two of the judges may be residents of the same county. "The Circuit Courts for the several counties are the highest Common Law Courts of record and original jurisdiction within this State, and each has common law powers and jurisdiction in all civil and criminal cases within its County (except when by law the jurisdiction has been taken away or conferred upon another tribunal); and all the additional powers and jurisdiction given by the Constitution and by law."² The Circuit Courts have both original and appellate jurisdiction. Cases on appeal from Trial Magistrate Courts are heard *de novo* by the Circuit Court and no further appeal may be had by such appellant. In the trial of all criminal cases, either in the Circuit Courts or in the Trial Magistrate's Courts, the accused must be informed of his right to a trial before a jury, and be given the privilege freely to elect a jury trial or to be tried before the court without a jury.

The jurisdiction of Circuit Courts includes both Law and Equity. "By 'law' is meant that system of rules that has grown out of the old English common law or customary law, added to or modified by English statutes passed before 1776 and by American statutes. By 'equity' is meant the system of rules originated by the King's Chancellor and the Court of Chancery to supplement the English common law which had very early become too rigid. Equity concerns itself with rights and remedies not sufficiently taken care of by the common law."³ "By equity is meant a supplemental system of law to enforce certain rights either not recognized at all, or not adequately remedied by law."⁴ Circuit Courts on the Eastern Shore also have jurisdiction in all cases involving delinquent children (those under eighteen years of age). Usually one of the judges serves as Juvenile Court Judge for each county. In some cases involving juveniles, the judge may refer the case to the Trial Magistrate's Court for trial.

The Circuit Courts on the Eastern Shore hold at least two regular terms of court for jury trials each year in all of the counties, except one (Cecil) which has three regular terms. At least two non-jury terms of court are held each year in all of the counties except Cecil, in which only one is scheduled. In any county, however, the Court may in its discretion hold extra terms for either law or equity, should there arise the necessity for the same. In all jury terms of the courts, both criminal and civil cases may be tried.

The jurisdiction of Circuit Courts also includes the naturalization of aliens. In 1906 a Federal Law provided for uniform processes and records throughout the nation for naturalization. The Circuit Courts of Maryland, as courts of record having a seal, a clerk, and "jurisdiction in actions at law and equity, in which the amount in controversy is unlimited" were among those granted the power to naturalize aliens.⁵

The lower courts in counties on the Eastern Shore are known as Trial Magistrates Courts. Prior to 1939 they were Justices of the Peace courts. In 1927, by Act of the Legislature, a Peoples Court was created for Wicomico County. In 1939 the Legislature created the Trial Magistrates system to supplant the old Justice of the Peace system, and provided for one or more Trial Magistrates for every county in the State. In all of the counties on the Shore except one (Somerset) there is also a Substitute Trial Magistrate.

Trial Magistrates are appointed by the Governor for terms of two years, and are eligible for reappointment. Each Trial Magistrate is allowed a clerk, appointed by the Magistrate, whose duties include keeping the dockets of the court (criminal, civil, and motor vehicle) and such other duties as may pertain to the Magistrate's office. In some counties the clerk collects the fines and costs imposed by the Magistrate, and keeps the financial accounts of the court. In such cases, both Magistrates and their clerks are required to post security bonds, the premiums of which are paid by the County Commissioners. At the expiration of their terms of office Trial Magistrates are required to deposit with the clerk of the Circuit Court all dockets and legal papers issued during their tenure of office.

The jurisdiction of Trial Magistrates includes all cases of misdemeanors (except where the accused elects a jury trial) and civil cases involving amounts of less than three hundred dollars. Trial Magistrates have concurrent jurisdiction with Circuit Courts in some cases. All violations of traffic regulations come before Trial Magistrates. In such cases the accused may secure a jury trial only on appeal to the Circuit Court from the verdict of the Trial Magistrate.

In several of the counties there are also Committing Magistrates or Justices of the Peace, whose powers and duties are confined to the issuance of warrants for arrest and fixing the amount of bail for the accused. Trial Magistrates have concurrent powers in this respect.

The States Attorney—In the administration of criminal justice, an important official is the States Attorney for each county. As an elective officer, he is always more or less responsive to public opinion. The States Attorney is the county prosecutor. To be eligible for election to the office he must have been admitted to the practice of law in the State and in the county, and must have been a resident of the county for at least two years preceding his election. His duties include prosecution, and defense, on the part of the State, in all cases in which it may be interested. He may collect evidence concerning criminal acts in the county and present the same to the Grand Jury at each term of the Circuit Court for the purpose of procuring indictments (sometimes called "true bills"). He prosecutes the accused before the Courts, whether the accused elects a court trial or trial before a jury. On application of the Sheriff, he must order execution to be issued for the recovery of all fines and penalties which have been imposed by any court of record. He shall also assist the Comptroller and the Treasurer of the State in the adjustment of accounts of the Clerk of the Court, the Register of Wills, and the Sheriff of the county. In Wicomico County the States Attorney is required to be in attendance at sessions of the Peoples Court. The law does not require his attendance at sessions of Trial Magistrates courts in other counties on the Shore. At his option he may attend these courts and prosecute cases before them.

The Clerk of the Circuit Court—The Circuit Courts are courts of record. These records are kept by a Clerk of the Circuit Court in each county. He is elected by the qualified voters of each county every four years. He is allowed to have a Deputy Clerk and one or more stenographers or typists to copy the records of his office.

The Clerk is one of the oldest officers in the State of Maryland. As early as 1638 provision was made for the appointment of a Clerk or Register for the Hundred Court of Kent, and from 1642 the colonial records indicate that there was a Clerk for each county. The Commander of Kent Island and the Register

constituted the first court of record on the Eastern Shore. Under the first Constitution of Maryland (1776), provision was made for the appointment of clerks for the counties. With the adoption of the second Constitution (1851) the Clerk became an elective official and has remained so since that date. At the present time the Clerk is the most important record keeper in the counties. He is both a clerical agent of the court and the county recorder.

In addition to his clerical and recording duties the Clerk has become an administrative agent of the Court, and represents the authority of the Bench when the Court is not in session. He may judge and approve securities in appeal and writ of error bonds, enter appeals to the Court of Appeals during the vacation of the Court, pass all orders *nisi* for ratification of sales, issue commissions to assign guardians and value estates of infants, pass and issue orders of publication, and adjourn court in the absence of the Judge. He may pass orders *nisi* for the ratification of auditors' reports and accounts, receive insolvency petitions, appoint trustees for the benefit of creditors, and fix dates for insolvents to appear. He also has the powers of a justice of the peace in the taking of *supersedeas* of judgments and decrees.

As record keeper of the Court the Clerk must keep both criminal and civil dockets of all cases coming before the Circuit Court, including all papers pertaining to such suits, and record the judgments of the court. He also keeps a claims docket, in which all claims in cases of voluntary trusts, or under decrees for the payment of debts, or in any other cases in which creditors have proved their claims. Since 1914, the Clerk has registered, recorded, docketed, and indexed all judgments and decrees of Federal Courts in his county. As Clerk of the Court of Equity he is required to record all proceedings and claims allowed. Among the various and sundry other duties of the Clerk, he is required to issue licenses for various purposes, such as retailers', hunting, fishing and oystering, and marriage. He does not have power to issue motor vehicle licenses of any sort.

The Sheriff—The Sheriff is the chief executive officer of the county in the administration of justice, and in keeping the peace. The history of this office in Maryland goes back to earliest provincial government. The first mention of the office in the early records of the colony was to Mr. James Baldrige, Sheriff of St. Mary's County, in connection with the first General Assembly held January 25, 1637. The first specific reference to a Sheriff on the Shore was to the Sheriff of Kent in connection with the meeting of the General Assembly in 1650. It is reasonable to assume that Kent had a Sheriff as soon as it was recognized as a county (1642). The office is of English origin, and like several others, was transplanted to the Province of Maryland by the early settlers.

The Sheriff, like other officers of the State and the counties, is elected by the qualified voters of the county, to serve for a term of four years, and until his successor is duly elected and qualified. At the present time the Sheriff of each county is paid a salary, which varies in amount with the county, there being no uniform salary scale for this office. Until recent years, Sheriffs were paid according to a scale of fees prescribed by the General Assembly, apparently on the theory that this would be an incentive to greater activity in the performance of their duties. By the same token, however, the fee system led to abuses. During the colonial period sheriffs were often subject to great temptation to official abuses, as evidenced by the fact that, during the first hundred years of the Province, no less than twenty laws were passed against sheriffs' ill-practices in office. After Mary-

land became a State, it became necessary for the General Assembly to pass a law (1792) to restrain the ill-practices of sheriffs in the counties.

With respect to duties and powers of the office, all writs and process shall be directed to the Sheriff, unless he is disqualified, or when by law the writ or process may be directed to another officer. It is the duty of the Sheriff to make arrests, and to have custody of all persons arrested in the county until they are released or discharged by due course of law. He is answerable for all fines and penalties imposed by the Circuit Courts. He is charged with the removal to State penal institutions of all persons sentenced to confinement by the courts. He has custody of all persons lawfully convicted of any crime and has charge of the county jail. It is his duty to provide food for all prisoners committed to his charge, for which he is allowed a certain *per diem* amount by the County Commissioners. He is required to summon jurors and witnesses. Summonses issued by the Orphans Court and by the Public Service Commission are also directed to the Sheriff.

The sheriffs of the counties on the Eastern Shore are allowed to appoint one or more deputies to assist them in their law enforcement activities and in the preservation of the peace.

In most of the counties on the Shore constables are appointed to serve under the Magistrates' courts. While the law provides for the appointment of one constable at large for each Trial Magistrate, there is at least one county (Kent) in which there is no constable, the Sheriff and his deputies performing all the services in connection with the Trial Magistrates court. The laws of Maryland also provide for the appointment of a "court crier" and a number of bailiffs, whose duties are to announce the opening of the Circuit Court and to assist the Sheriff in keeping order in the court room.

Juries—From time immemorial the Anglo-Saxon peoples have held to the doctrine that every accused person should have the privilege of being tried before a jury of his peers. This custom arose early in the Province of Maryland, and was considered so important that the requirement has been included in the Bill of Rights in all of Maryland's State Constitutions. For each term of the Circuit Court two sets of jurors serve: one, the Grand Jury, the other, the Petit Jury. The Grand Jury is composed of twenty-three jurors, one of whom is designated by the Judge of the Circuit Court as foreman, and who presides over the meetings and makes the report to the Court. The Grand Jury hears evidence to determine whether or not accused persons shall be indicted and brought to trial. In considering evidence the Grand Jury has the advice of the States Attorney as to the law in any given case. The Grand Jury is also required to visit and inspect the county jail, inquire into its condition, the manner in which it is kept, and the treatment of prisoners, and report the same to the Court, together with any recommendations for changes or improvements that ought to be made.

The Petit Jury consists of the remainder of the number of jurors drawn for the term (usually twenty-five or more) from which number twelve are selected to hear each case. Both the State (or the Plaintiff) and the defense have the right to "strike," or object to, a certain number of jurors from those selected, and the places of those so "struck" are filled by selecting others from the remainder called for jury service. The Court may order the sheriff to summon other jurors during the court session to facilitate the work of the Court.

A panel of twelve petit jurors, in jury trials, hears the evidence and arguments from the attorneys, and after instructions from the Court, renders a verdict

according to the law and the evidence in the case. Article XV, Section 5, of the Maryland Constitution provides that "in the trial of all criminal cases, the jury shall be the judges of law, as well as of fact." The decision of the jury must be unanimous in order to be a verdict.

The Orphans Court—The administration of justice in testamentary affairs is under the jurisdiction of an Orphans Court and a Register of Wills for each county. The Court is composed of three judges, elected by the qualified voters of the county, to serve for four years. One of the judges is designated by the Governor as Chief Judge of the Court.

The first Constitution of Maryland (1776) makes no mention of Orphans Courts, but does provide for a Register of Wills for the several counties in the State. So at the first General Assembly after the adoption of this Constitution a law was passed making provision for Orphans Courts.⁶ During the Provincial period of Maryland history, testamentary affairs came under the jurisdiction of a Commissary General and after 1699 there was a Deputy Commissary for each county who attended to the administration of estates under the supervision of the County Courts.

Article IV of the Constitution of 1867 specifically states that Orphans' Courts shall be elected by the qualified voters of the counties. Thus, these Courts were established, first by legislation and later by Constitutional provision, as successors of the County Courts and the Deputy Commissaries in the administration of testamentary affairs in the counties.

The Court has full power to take probate of wills, grant letters testamentary and of administration, direct the conduct and accounting of executors and administrators, superintend the distribution of estates intestate, secure the rights of orphans and legatees, and administer justice in all matters relating to the affairs of deceased persons, also of persons supposed to be dead. The Court has full power, authority, and jurisdiction to examine, hear, and decree upon all accounts, claims, and demands existing between wards and their guardians and between legatees, or persons entitled to any distributive share of an intestate's estate, and executors and administrators, and may enforce obedience to, and execution of, their decrees in the same ample manner as the Courts of Equity in this State. They shall keep a seal for the office of Register of Wills; and the said seal shall be affixed to all certificates of the Court or of the Register, and to every process and writ issued from the Court. It may adjust differences between infants and guardians, remove the latter in case of failure, for any cause whatever, and bestow the proper care and direction to the affairs of the former. The Court may compel attendance on the part of witnesses. It may revoke letters testamentary and administrative for cause, and may discharge executors, administrators or guardians upon presentation of satisfactory evidence that he or they have fulfilled the duties and obligations pertaining to said trust. Orphans Courts may not exercise any jurisdiction not expressly conferred by law.⁷

The Register of Wills—In the administration of testamentary affairs in the counties, the Register of Wills plays an important part. Historically, he is the successor of the Commissary General and the Deputy Commissary of the colonial period. The first Constitution of Maryland (1776) provided that a Register of Wills be appointed for each county. By Act of Assembly in 1777, when the Orphans Court was created, the Register of Wills was subordinated to the Court and was required to work with it as a clerk, and he had the authority to act for

the Court as the executive of the Court between sessions. Under the Constitution of 1851 the Register became an elective official and has remained so under the two succeeding Constitutions (1864 and 1867). The Register of Wills is now elected by the qualified voters in each county for a term of four years. He may appoint one or more deputies or clerks to assist in the work of his office.

The Register must attend all meetings of the Orphans Court and keep a fair record of all proceedings, make a record of all wills proved before him or the Court, and of all other matters by law directed to be recorded in the Court or in his office. It is his duty to issue summonses, process or orders of the Court, and certify under the seal of the Court any copy of any part of the proceedings in the Court or in his office which any person may demand. In recess of the Court the Register may receive inventories of accounts of sales, examine vouchers, and state guardians' and administrators' accounts, subject to final approval by the Court. He may take probate of accounts against deceased persons' estates brought before him for passage or settlement, and pass any such account where the amount of the claim does not exceed fifty dollars. He may also act as auditor for the accounts of executors and administrators. He is required by law to render under oath to the Comptroller of the Treasury annually a full and accurate account of all fees, emoluments and receipts, and of all the expenses incident to his office. The Register may not plead as an attorney in any court in the county, and he is prohibited from accepting any fee, gratuity, gift, or reward for giving advice in any matter or thing relative to his office.

The judges of the Orphans Courts are paid on a *per diem* basis for each day the Court meets, the Chief Judge receiving a slightly higher *per diem* than the other two judges. The Register of Wills is paid a salary, the amount of which is fixed by the Legislature. The Orphans Courts on the Eastern Shore meet every Tuesday in every month in all of the counties except one (Cecil) where the meetings are held every Wednesday. The Courts may change their meeting days to avoid conflict with sessions of Circuit Courts, and for election days.

The Coroner—Another office in the administration of justice which has been regarded as of considerable importance (until 1939) is that of Coroner. This office, like many others in the counties, was borrowed from England. In the early days of the Province, the Sheriff and Coroner were one and the same. Later the offices were separated, and part of the Coroner's duties was to act as substitute for the Sheriff in all cases where that official was disqualified by law from performing the duties of his office.

After Maryland became a State (1776) the office of Coroner continued to exist by legislative enactment. It did not have Constitutional recognition until 1851, and then only a single mention. The Constitutions of 1864 and 1867 simply repeated the section referring to Coroners in the Constitution of 1851, leaving the method of appointment, term of office, duties and compensation to legislative enactment.⁸

In addition to performing the duties of the Sheriff, when that official was disqualified by law, it was also the duty of Coroners to view the bodies of all persons who met death by accident, mischance, or in any other unusual manner, or when such person died in jail, or when circumstances attending the death or case indicated a strong possibility or reasonable belief that the deceased person came to his death by felony. The Coroner was then required to summon and hold a jury of inquest over the body. Since June 1, 1939 Coroners have been supplanted by Medical Examiners for the counties.

Elisors—A curious and apparently obsolete official in the administration of justice, and one that is little known to the average citizen, is the Elisor. First found in the laws of Maryland in 1794, it appears to be of English origin, for it is mentioned in Blackstone's Commentaries, Book III, page 355. It received Constitutional recognition by being mentioned in the Constitutions of 1851, 1864 and 1867.

The law concerning Elisors has changed very little since its first enactment in 1794. In Bagby's Annotated Code, Article 75, sections 175-180 the following statement is found: "When the Sheriff is a party to or interested in any suit or proceeding in any Court so as to be disqualified from serving process, and there is no Coroner duly qualified to serve such process, the Judge of the Court in which the suit or proceeding is to be instituted or is pending shall, on application of any party interested, supported by affidavit or other proof of such disqualification, appoint an Elisor to serve any process in such suit or proceeding, which appointment shall be in writing, signed by the Judge and filed with the clerk issuing the process and may be made either in Court or during the recess. Every Elisor appointed as aforesaid shall have the same power to serve any writ or process directed to him as the Sheriff has to serve similar process, and shall be entitled to the same fees therefor. If any Elisor dies or refuses to act, the Judge may appoint another in his place."

Notaries Public—The office of Notary is, strictly speaking, not a county office, but the law provides for the appointment of Notaries for the several counties and for Baltimore City, hence it seems expedient to include this minor official in the description of county government on the Eastern Shore.

The office is an old one, having been established in the Province in 1663, and has been continued through the history of the Province and the State until the present time. The first Constitution (1776) makes no mention of the office. In 1801 the General Assembly provided for the appointment of Notaries and for the regulation of their fees. The office has had Constitutional recognition since 1851.

The duties and powers of the office are much the same today that they were in 1801, which are to administer oaths, take acknowledgments, validate papers, documents and the like with a notarial seal. There is no definite number prescribed for any county. They are appointed by the Governor, and he may appoint as many as he deems necessary or expedient in any county. Both men and women are eligible for appointment to the office of Notary Public. In the validation of papers, documents, etc. the Notary must state when his or her commission expires. Notaries are allowed to charge fees ranging from twenty-five cents to two dollars.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC EDUCATION—In the county government on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, not the least important is the administration of Public Education. It is the belief of a great many people in the United States that a well educated citizenry constitutes a powerful safeguard for the institutions of free government. Whether or not this belief is justified depends upon the quality of education provided for the youth of the land and what use the people make of what they have learned. In totalitarian countries dictators rely heavily on the schools to indoctrinate their youth in the ideology of the country and to enforce the particular doctrines on which the political, economic and social system is built. In the midst of the confusion and contradictions existing in the modern world between democratic countries and centralized dictatorships, by the

same token, peoples living under free governments are justified in educating their children in the principles of freedom and democracy. Only thus can an educated citizenry become the palladium of our liberties and the fortress of our freedom.

Early in the history of Maryland (1694) prominent citizens began to advocate the establishment of free schools "for Encouragement of Learning and Advancement of the Natives of this Province."⁹ Prior to 1825 all of the laws concerning education emphasized free schools for the counties. In that year the General Assembly created the office of State Superintendent of Schools,¹⁰ and this law appears to be the legal beginning of the present system of free education in all of the counties in the State, though it was modified and amplified by several later Acts. While the system of education in Maryland has always been based on the county as the unit for administration, there has been a growing tendency towards centralization of power and authority in the State Board of Education with the State Superintendent as its executive officer. No mention of public education is made in the State Constitution of 1851, but in 1864 the third State Constitution provided for a complete system of State education very similar to the one now in existence, and the fourth and last Constitution (1867) provided for the continuance of that system in all its essential forms, leaving to the Legislature the regulation or modification of the system for future generations.¹¹

The organization of the educational machinery of the counties is, therefore, inextricably interwoven with the State system and is directly under the supervision and control of that organization.

County Boards of Education—The system of Public Education in the Eastern Shore counties is under the immediate control of Boards of Education consisting of three members (except in Dorchester and Somerset counties, where there are six) appointed by the Governor for terms of six years. The County Board is required to carry out the provisions of State laws, to enforce the by-laws and policies of that Board, and, subject to the above, may determine, with the advice of the County Superintendent of Schools, the educational policies of the county, and shall prescribe rules and regulations for the conduct and management of the schools. The County Board, through its executive officer, the County Superintendent, and his professional assistants, exercises control and supervision over the schools of the county. It has the power to divide the county into appropriate school districts, locate and maintain schools in each district, consolidate schools, transport pupils to and from schools, and to make and carry out plans for the conduct of elementary and high schools throughout the county, within the provisions of the law, and that the public education welfare requires.

The County Board has the power to appoint a County Superintendent of Schools, for a term of four years, subject to approval by the State Superintendent. The County Superintendent is the executive officer of the County Board, and as such, he appoints principals and assistant teachers, and fixes their salaries, subject to the State law relating thereto, and with the approval of the County Board.

The school law provides that the County Board may suspend or dismiss without appeal any teacher so appointed, on the written recommendation of the County Superintendent, for immorality, misconduct in office, insubordination, incompetency or wilful neglect of duty, provided that the charges be stated in writing, and that the teacher be given an opportunity to be heard by the Board upon not less than ten days notice; provided further that in all cases where the Board is not unanimous in its decision to suspend or dismiss, the right of appeal shall lie to the State Superintendent of Schools. In 1927 the Legislature enacted a tenure and

retirement law for teachers which provides that teachers who have been employed in any county for a period longer than two years may not be dismissed except for gross immorality or inefficiency. This law does not, however, preclude the removal or transfer of any teachers from one school to another within the county.

It is the duty of the County Superintendent, on behalf of the Board, to prepare an annual budget, itemized and detailed for each specific purpose, the amounts needed for each purpose in the conduct and maintenance of the county schools for the succeeding year. This budget must be submitted to the County Commissioners, for their approval, at least twenty days before the usual date for levying the county taxes. In order to participate in the State Equalization Fund the Commissioners must levy for school purposes at least sixty-seven cents on the one hundred dollars of assessable property in the county.

Prior to 1947 the State Department of Education exercised an overall supervision of county schools through regional State Supervisors of High Schools and a State Supervisor of Elementary Schools. At the present time each one of the counties on the Shore has a County Supervisor of High Schools and a County Supervisor for Elementary Schools. This change in the matter of supervision enlarges the responsibility of the County Board in the conduct of educational affairs in the counties.

District Trustees—The Maryland school law provides for a school district board, ordinarily known as school trustees, to be appointed by, and responsible to, the County Board. The law gave district trustees considerable power and responsibility. It was their duty to care for and maintain the school plant, to employ teachers, and to have general supervision over the schools in the district. In the passage of time, the district boards gradually lost most of their authority to the County Boards and the County Superintendent.

By virtue of the fact that the County Board of Education is a corporate body, title to all school property in the county is vested in the Board, and the direct management of all school property is by the Superintendent under the control of the County Board. Since the County Superintendent makes all nominations for the appointment of principals and assistant teachers, assigns them to their positions in the schools, transfers them as the needs of schools require, and has power to recommend for promotion, suspension, or dismissal, the powers of district boards concerning teachers have been lost, and district trustees in the county systems of education have become an anachronism.

Under the modern tendency towards centralization in government, the relatively independent county unit in Maryland for educational purposes has been transformed into a subsidiary unit of the State Department of Education in regard to policy, curriculum and administration. While county boards and county superintendents exercise a large amount of discretion in the actual management and operation of the schools, their actions must be in conformity to the by-laws and regulations enacted by the State Board. Through his power to certificate superintendents, principals, and teachers, to determine whether or not the county schools shall participate in the State Equalization Fund, to approve or disapprove plans for construction of new school buildings, and to determine the general policy and curriculum of the county schools; the State Superintendent exercises a rather heavy hand in the educational affairs of the counties. By reason of this tendency the citizens of the counties have lost many of their democratic rights and powers in the matter of their childrens' education.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC WELFARE—The administration of Public Welfare in the counties of Maryland has always been a problem of paramount importance. As early as 1650 the poor became so numerous in the Province that the General Assembly felt constrained to provide public relief for the distressed inhabitants. Apart from this first instance of public effort to relieve the condition of the poor, little is known of this type of activity until after Maryland became a State. Eleven years after the adoption of the first Constitution (1776) the General Assembly made definite effort to correct the condition of the poor that was found to exist in the counties, and enacted a law for the administration of relief. During the next century and a quarter no fewer than ten laws were passed modifying the method of administering poor relief. The plan finally adopted was a system of alms houses (later called county homes) for the counties.

The almshouse method of administering poor relief was never satisfactory, particularly because of its limitations, and also, because of the excessive expense involved in establishing and maintaining these homes. Under this system provision was made for "indoor" relief only, and to obtain it a person had to be adjudged a pauper, and be assigned to live in the county home. Little, or no provision was made for relief of persons who might be temporarily distressed. Such cases were left to "private charity," though on rare occasions county commissioners might vote small sums to be paid as "outdoor relief" to a few individuals. Some of the counties on the Shore still maintain almshouses, which constitute a considerable item of welfare expense. These homes are under the general supervision of "Trustees of the Poor," who have rather wide powers in the control and operation of the institution. Usually there is a farm operated in connection with the "home" (sometimes at a financial loss to the county) and a superintendent is employed to operate the farm and to run the "home."

The crisis of the depression which began in the early 1930s became so severe, and the relief needs in the various States, counties and municipalities all over the country came to be so great that there arose a demand for Federal action in this field. In 1933 the Federal Emergency Relief Act was passed, and the Federal Government took over all of the relief work in the United States except the small amount administered through the remaining county almshouses (or "poor-houses"). This continued under complete Federal control for several years. In 1938 the distribution of relief was turned back to the States and since that time has been operated through county and city welfare boards. Each county on the Eastern Shore has a Welfare Board composed of seven members, six of whom are appointed by the State Board of Public Welfare, on nomination by the County Commissioners, for terms of six years. The seventh member is always one of the county commissioners, elected annually by the commissioners, as an *ex officio* member of the welfare board. The members of this board serve without pay. They are allowed mileage, if they live outside of the county seat.

The board elects its own chairman, and meets ordinarily once a month. The actual work of the board is under a "Director" appointed by the State Board who is under the classified state civil service, and receives a salary. The Director has authority to employ a clerical staff and as many case workers to investigate individual cases of need as may be required. The clerical assistants and case workers are also under state civil service, and are paid salaries fixed by the State Employment Commission.

The county welfare board is the local unit for the administration of a state-wide system of public relief. It has authority, under rules, regulations, and

classifications set up by the State Board, to administer old age assistance, aid to dependent children, aid to the needy blind, general public assistance, and child welfare services under the Federal Social Security Act. Since 1936 all records of the activities of local welfare boards have been required by law to be kept confidential.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH—The Administration of Public Health in the counties of Maryland is so closely tied in with the State Department of Public Health that it is not strictly a function of county government. While the counties provide a considerable portion of the funds for the operation of the Public Health program, the activities of local health departments are under the control of the State Board of Health.

Historically, the public health movement dates from 1874. In that year the General Assembly created the State Board of Health, consisting of five physicians, which was to take "cognizance of the interests of health and life among the people generally." In 1880 the personnel of the Board was increased to seven members, and included three physicians, a civil engineer, the attorney general, the commissioner of health of Baltimore City, and the secretary of the board. In addition to the board's general investigative powers and operative procedure two important delegations of authority were conferred: First, to abate any nuisance affecting public health by filing an information in court. Second, subject to the written approval of the Governor, the board could wield fairly broad powers to combat any emergency arising from epidemic or pestilential disease.

In 1886 the powers of the board were expanded in dealing with infectious diseases to cover preventive, as distinguished from curative, activities. At the same time, the county commissioners in each county were constituted an *ex officio* local board of health. The commissioners were to appoint annually "a well educated physician" as county health officer who should be the secretary and executive officer of the board of health. By this Act, a part of the active administration of public health was transferred to the counties. Other statutory changes were made in 1914 and in 1922 relative to salaries and training of county health officers.

Since 1931 the county health officer has actually become an appointee of the State Board of Health, and bears the official title of Deputy State Health Officer. He is appointed for four years, and may be removed "for cause" by the State Board. He is not permitted to practice medicine nor to engage in any other activity which will conflict with performance of his social duties. His salary is set by the State Board and he is a full time official. Several of the counties on the Shore have had full time health officers since the latter part of the decade of the 1920s. The deputy state health officers in the counties are assisted in the health work by county nurses and sanitary inspectors, as well as office and clinical assistants.

In addition to the health activities of county health officer, he is required to keep a record of vital statistics for the county, that is, complete and comprehensive register of all births and deaths occurring in the county. This function was formerly a part of the duties of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for the county.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF ELECTIONS—The administration of elections in the counties of the Eastern Shore is by no means the least important function of county government. There is a widespread belief that the degree of popular control of government officials is dependent upon the number of elective

offices. Whether or not this belief is justified by actual practice is a matter of considerable difference of opinion. Yet from early times in Maryland this tradition has been strong, and has been reinforced by the fact that a large part of Maryland is rural. Acting upon the general theory of popular sovereignty the legislators of the State have provided that a large number of state and county officials be elected by the popular vote.

The struggle for democracy in Maryland was long and bitter. Neither the Lords Proprietary nor the English Parliament was willing to permit the inhabitants to participate in framing the laws for their own government. The Lord Proprietor enacted the first set of laws for the Province (1637), and when the Lieutenant General attempted to have them approved, the General Assembly of freemen, called together for this purpose, rejected the entire batch of laws. Thus occurred the first rebellion of the freeholders of Maryland. At later times Parliament made similar efforts to keep the legislative power out of the hands of the people but they were followed by similar results. The final overthrow of English authority over the colony occurred with the adoption of Maryland's first Constitution in 1776. Article 1 of the Declaration of Rights declares "That all Government of right originates from the People, is founded in compact only, and instituted solely for the good of the whole; and they have, at all times, the inalienable right to alter, reform or abolish their form of Government in such manner as they may deem expedient." Yet, the only officials which the people were permitted to choose by direct vote were Delegates to the General Assembly and Sheriffs of the several counties! In 1837, sixty one years after Maryland became a State, the people were permitted to elect Senators to represent them in the General Assembly. In this same year the Governor of the State, for the first time, was elected by popular vote, and the citizens of the counties were permitted to elect members of their Levy Courts, the officials charged with the important function of collecting and spending the taxpayers' money.

With the adoption of the Constitution of 1851 the people decided that they ought to have more direct control of their government. Under this Constitution, Judges of the Court of Appeals, Judges of the Circuit Courts, Clerks of Circuit Courts, Judge of Orphans Courts, Registers of Wills, Justices of the Peace, Constables, States Attorneys (superseding the Attorney General and his deputies), the Comptroller, Commissioners of Public Works, the Commissioner of the Land Office, and Surveyors in the counties, all became elective officers. The adoption of this Constitution may be regarded as the real turning point in the exercise of the elective franchise in Maryland, as regards both State and county offices. Regardless of the statement in the Declaration of Rights, the leaders of the State, during the first seventy-five years of its history, had feared to trust the people too far with that powerful democratic weapon, the ballot.

A few changes were made in the Constitutions of 1864 and 1867. The office of Attorney General was recreated and made elective. Justices of the Peace and Constables were made appointive. Various officials held office for terms ranging from two to fifteen years. By amendment to the Constitution in 1922 the terms of all State and county offices (except Judges of the Court of Appeals, Judges of the Circuit Courts, and members of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City) were adjusted to terms of four years each, beginning with the election of 1930. The term of judges remains fifteen years.

Supervisors of Elections—Elections in the counties of the Eastern Shore (as well as for the entire State, except municipal elections) are under the direct control

of a Board of Supervisors of Elections for each county, consisting of three members appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Supervisors must be legal residents of the county, and persons of high character, integrity and recognized business capacity. Two of them must always be selected from the two leading political parties in the county. The candidates for appointment to the board are usually recommended by the State Central Committees representing the two leading parties of the State. The salaries of Election Supervisors are fixed by the legislature.¹² The Supervisors appoint a clerk to assist them in the performance of their duties. The county commissioners are required to provide offices for the use of the Supervisors, and to allow the use of any public buildings in the county that may be necessary to facilitate the registration of voters and the conduct of elections.

The duties of the Supervisors of Elections include the appointment of four Judges of Election for each district or sub-district, two of whom shall be from each of the two leading political parties in the county, and two Clerks of Elections from each of the voting precincts of the county. The Supervisors have charge of the ballot boxes, the ballots, registry books, poll books, tally sheets, and all other paraphernalia used in connection with the registration of voters and the conduct of elections, and furnish the same to the judges and clerks of election in the several precincts whenever required for registering voters and conducting elections. The Supervisors publish notices of registration and elections, select polling places, publish lists of nominations, or of candidates for nomination in primary elections. The Supervisors also constitute a Board of Canvassers of Election Returns.

Registration of Voters—Registration of voters is held on the same days in all of the counties. The law provides that the Board of Supervisors of Elections shall designate two of the Judges of Election from each precinct (or sub-precinct) in the county, one each from the two major political parties, to serve as a board of registry for their respective districts or precincts. On the Tuesday preceding any primary election and on the Tuesdays five and four weeks respectively, preceding any general election, each Board of Registry in the respective counties shall meet at the place designated by the Board of Supervisors of Elections to make a registration of all the persons in its district or precinct, as the case may be, who have not previously registered and who may be entitled to vote at the next general election. All persons so registered are entitled to vote at all primary and general elections thereafter unless such registration shall be cancelled as provided by law.

The hours for registering fixed by law are from 9 o'clock A. M. until 9 o'clock P. M., but the Supervisors may change the hours of registration provided that they may not begin before 8 o'clock A. M. or later than 10 o'clock A. M. nor close earlier than 7 o'clock P. M., by giving notice of such change. Any voter in the county may be present at the place of registration in any precinct or district to challenge any applicant for registration. At the close of the registration session the registers shall be made to agree where there may be a difference between them, and shall be signed by the officers of registration immediately below the last name registered under each letter on said registers.

After the close of the session for registration of voters held four weeks preceding a general election the Board of Registry shall note for removal from the list of voters the names of persons known or supposed to be dead, the names of those who have removed from the precinct or district, and of all persons known or suspected of being disqualified under the Constitution (those convicted of larceny or

other infamous crime, lunatics or persons *non compos mentis*). The names of deceased persons, over twenty-one years of age, are furnished to the Boards of Supervisors by Health Officers of the counties. The names of those convicted of infamous crimes, and the names of all women residents of each county whose names have been changed by marriage are reported to the Board by the Clerks of the Circuit Courts. The registry books of each Board of Registration must be certified, and signed by the Board and then turned over to the Board of Supervisors of Elections.

Nominations—All candidates for public office in Maryland must have a certificate of nomination from the proper authority before their names may be placed on the official ballots for election. Nominations may be made by one of three methods: First, by party convention; second, by direct primary election; third, by petition. A convention, within the meaning of the law, is an organized assemblage of delegates or voters, representing a particular party or principle, whose highest candidate at any election held within two years next preceding the holding of such convention polled more than one per cent and less than ten per cent of the entire vote cast in the State, county or other division or district for which the nomination is made.

Nominations by parties polling ten per cent or more of the entire vote cast in any such election shall be made by means of primary election. Any legally qualified voter may become a candidate for nomination for a county office by filing a certificate in writing with the Board of Supervisors of Elections for the county and paying the fee required by law for such filing. To become a candidate of a particular party for nomination a voter must be affiliated with that party. All certificates for nomination must be filed and fees paid not less than thirty days before the day of holding such primary election. The names of candidates for nomination, properly filed, shall be printed on the official ballot by the Board of Supervisors of Election not less than seven days before said election, as far as may be practicable. The expenses of holding primary elections in the counties shall be paid by the county commissioners of each county.

The third method of making nominations is by petition. A certificate of nomination containing the name of the candidate, and all other information required by law to be contained therein, may be circulated for the signatures of voters. The certificate, or petition must contain a statement that the persons signing it intend to vote for the person whose name it contains. In the counties on the Shore, not less than five hundred signatures are necessary for nomination by petition. A candidate of a new political party may be nominated only by this method. No person who has been a candidate for nomination by a political party at the primary elections preceding a general election may be nominated for an office to be filled at such general election by petition. Certificates of nomination may contain the name of only one nominee for each office to be filled, and no person shall accept a nomination to more than one office.

Nominations for state wide offices are made by state conventions, the delegates to which are elected at the primary election. It is mandatory that delegates from counties to state conventions vote for the candidates who received the highest number of votes in the primary election.

Within seven days after the day of any primary election any candidate for a nomination or for delegate to any convention or for executive or member of any committee or position who has been defeated on the face of the returns may petition the Supervisors of Elections for an appeal from and review of the action

and decision of the judges of election in counting the ballots and for a recanvass and recount of the ballots cast in any or all of the precincts in the county. In the case of candidates for a State office or for member of Congress the petition may extend to two or more counties. The Supervisors of Elections are given jurisdiction and power to hear and determine all such appeals.

In the event of any vacancy occurring because of the death or resignation of any person nominated for any State or judicial office or for member of Congress the vacancy is filled by the State Central Committee, or governing body for the State of the political party, to which the nominee belongs. If the vacancy be for a county office it is filled by the State Central Committee of the party in the county.

Elections—General elections in the counties of the Eastern Shore (and throughout the State) are held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in election years. For State and county offices they occur midway between Presidential elections and are held every four years (except in the case of Judges of the Court of Appeals and Judges of the Circuit Courts). The conduct of elections is under the direct control of the Supervisors of Elections for each county.

The method of voting in all elections is prescribed in minute detail by the election laws of the State.¹³ At each polling place in the county (district, precinct or sub-precinct) on election day there must be present four judges and two clerks of election. One judge is in charge of the ballots, one in charge of the ballot box and two have charge of the registry books. The voter enters the polling place, gives his name and residence which is checked by the two judges who have the registry books. The judge holding the ballots writes the voter's name and the number of his ballot upon the coupon attached to the ballot and his own name or initials on the ballot itself. The two clerks of election then enter the name of the voter on their poll books. The voter then proceeds alone to one of the voting booths provided for the purpose and marks his ballot. Not more than one voter may be allowed in a booth at one time, unless the voter is unable, by reason of blindness or other physical handicap, to mark his ballot. Under such circumstances he is allowed assistance in marking his ballot. Seven minutes is the maximum time allowed in the booth if there be other voters waiting to vote. Before leaving the booth the voter refolds his ballot in the same manner in which it was folded when he received it from the judge, and without displaying the marks thereon. He then gives it to the judge at the ballot box, who detaches the coupon from the ballot and strings the coupon upon a cord or wire provided for the purpose, and then deposits the ballot in the ballot box. When the ballot of a voter is deposited in the box the judges having charge of the registries write in the proper column the word "voted" in the same line with the name of the voter.

At the time specified by the Board of Supervisors of Elections for closing the polls (as provided by law) the polls are closed, and no other votes are allowed to be cast, unless there are voters waiting in line at the polls at the closing time. These must be allowed to cast their ballots, after which the polls must be closed.

Having closed the polls, the election officials proceed to open the ballot box and count the ballots. Before doing this, however, there are certain matters that have to be attended to. First, the challengers and watchers of all political parties which have candidates for election must be permitted behind the guard rail if they so wish. Second, the unused ballots must be sealed in a package and marked

“unused ballots,” and the signatures of the judges endorsed on the package. Third, the coupons which were torn from the ballots when voted must be destroyed. Fourth, the judges must write the word “no” in ink on their registry books, opposite the names of persons who did not vote. Fifth, they must compare registries, count and announce the number of persons who have voted. Sixth, the ballot box is then opened and the ballots are counted (without unfolding them) and the number of ballots contained in the box must be announced in a loud voice.

In counting the votes on the ballots, the judge who calls off the names of candidates for whom votes have been cast must be seated between two other judges, so that they may see the names and marks on the ballots. The law expressly requires that the name of every person voted for and the office for which the vote is given him, shall be called out, and no vote shall be counted for any candidate opposite whose name no cross-mark has been placed. In counting the votes on the ballots the law requires that the judges permit challengers or watchers to examine ballots upon request, but in no case must the judges permit a ballot to be taken from their hands. After the clerks have announced to the judges the total number of votes received by each candidate, each of the judges in turn shall then proclaim in a loud voice the total number of votes received by persons voted for, in such precinct or sub-precinct, and the office for which he is voted, and also the number of votes for and against any proposition which shall have been submitted to the vote of the people.

After the votes have been counted and announced, the judges make up the returns. These must be in duplicate and headed with the date of the election, the name of the county, the number of the district and precinct, if the district contains more than one precinct. The returns must contain a statement of the hour of opening and closing the polls, and the total number of votes cast. Then follows the number of votes for each candidate for each office, and the number of votes cast for and against each proposition submitted to the vote of the people. The numbers of votes in each case must be written out in words, and not merely given in figures. Each statement must conclude with a certificate that it is correct, and must be signed by all of the judges and clerks. When the returns are completed each set must be enclosed in an envelope and sealed. The judges then write their names across the flaps of the envelopes, which must be addressed, one to the County Commissioners and the other to the Clerk of the Circuit Court for the county. Each set of tallies must be put in an envelope and sealed in the same way, one addressed to the Register of Wills and the other to the Board of Supervisors of Elections.

The spoiled and not voted ballots must be put in one package, leaving the coupons still attached to them, and the rejected and defective ballots in another, and each package marked as to contents. The two packages, together with the ballots cast and counted, and the poll books are put in the ballot box, which is then locked and the key removed. A strip of paper containing the signatures of the judges is pasted over the keyhole and the edge of the ballot box. One of the judges then takes the ballot box thus sealed and one of the registry books, and another judge takes the key to the ballot box and the other registry book, and before twelve o'clock of the second day after the election they must deliver them to the Board of Supervisors of Elections. They must also deliver one of the envelopes containing the election returns to the Clerk of the Circuit Court and the other to the County Commissioners. They shall deliver one set of tallies to the Register of Wills and the other to the Board of Supervisors of Elections.

In all of these cases the judges must take receipts for all deliveries made by them.

On the Thursday next following the election, between the hours of twelve noon and one in the afternoon, the Board of Supervisors of Elections shall meet as a Board of County Canvassers at the usual place for holding the Circuit Court for the county, and canvass the returns of the election. Each member of the Board must take an oath to canvass, add up, and declare the votes truly as required by law. At their first meeting a majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum, and all sessions of the Board shall be public. The candidates and their counsel shall have the right to attend and to inspect the original statements and returns, and all other documents and records.

After their organization, the Board of Canvassers shall then canvass the returns and make abstracts thereof attested by the signatures of the chairman and the secretary of the Board, and transmit the same to the Clerk of the Circuit Court for the county who shall make out and deliver certificates of election to the persons receiving the highest number of votes for each office, upon his application. In case of mistakes on the part of the judges and clerks of election the Board of Canvassers shall take the steps provided by law to have the errors corrected. Should it appear that the Board of Canvassers has erred, recourse is had to the Circuit Court which has power to compel the correction.¹⁴

POLITICS—Local politics in the counties of the Eastern Shore of Maryland may be said to constitute the practical application of the lessons learned in school of democracy as afforded by participation in county government. The people of this part of the State have the reputation of being rather active and astute in the game of politics. Nearly all of the voters, in registering, affiliate themselves with one or the other of the major national political parties. Voters who do not so affiliate are not permitted to vote in primary elections, and are thus deprived of the right to participate in the nomination of candidates for election. A voter may change his party affiliation but must do so at least six months before the primary election in which he wishes to vote as a member of the other party. Once affiliated relatively few voters ever change their party affiliation. While the law does not require affiliated voters to vote for the candidates of their party in general elections, the generally accepted rules of the parties and political custom operate coercively to prevent voters from jumping party lines in elections. Should such jumping become known to or suspected by party leaders in counties, it is frowned upon by loyal party members, and all such irregular voters are ignored in future party caucuses and activities.

The game of politics in the counties of the Eastern Shore is played all the year, and every year. But party leaders and workers become especially active in election years. Many leaders, would-be leaders, and prospective candidates make it a point to attend church suppers and other public occasions for the specific purpose of mingling with and getting acquainted with voters.

In election years political campaigns become very active and intense. Candidates are expected to contribute to party campaign funds (usually ten per cent of the expected first year's salary or more). This contribution is in addition to filing fees and any personal advertising which the candidate may wish to do. For this reason people without some financial means seldom get elected to political office.

The purposes for which campaign funds are spent are numerous and varied. Newspaper advertising, posters, circulars, clerical and mailing expenses, speakers' expenses, transportation of voters to and from the polls on election day constitute

a few of the legitimate party expenses. There is no possible way of determining the exact amount of money spent in election campaigns. While the law requires that candidates file statements of their campaign expenses, they do not have to report amounts of money spent in their behalf by friends and others of which they have no personal knowledge.

One of the serious drawbacks in the positive operation of democracy in county government is apathy on the part of many voters. This is especially noticeable in connection with primary elections. In a recent primary held on the Shore



Deer's Head State Hospital Near Salisbury

fewer than ten per cent of the registered voters in one county put in an appearance at the polls. Good government cannot always be had unless there be greater participation by the qualified voters in the counties. It is pointless for people to find fault with the officials of government until the critics do their part in the nomination and election of their public officers. Participation in the political affairs of the county is a privilege that every citizen ought to be proud to enjoy.

No theory of government can be any better than its practical operation in the affairs of men. High sounding shibboleths of democracy are all very well as long as they stand up under the acid test in the crucible of practicality. Unless people work at democracy they are not likely to be the beneficiaries of much good government. Interest leads to information, and knowledge forms the basis of sound action. If democracy is to have an educative value it will have to begin its tuition by inculcating a knowledge of the nature and spirit of its local institutions. Whenever a people lose sight of the importance of their local governmental affairs and attempt to tie local politics in with the national political parties, all government tends to suffer losses in effectiveness where it should most vitally touch their affairs. One of the most regrettable tendencies in governmental affairs in the United States in recent times has been the movement to concentrate direction and control of local communities in the National Capital. "The complications and difficulties of government increase as the square of the distance."¹⁵ It is axiomatic that a well informed local citizenry knows more about their own needs and affairs than does a bureaucrat in Washington.

The people of Maryland took a step in the right direction when in 1922 they amended the State Constitution so as to make State and local elections fall half-way between National election years. This procedure tends to emphasize the importance of State and county government. If these same people want to preserve their priceless heritage of local democracy they will have to provide for more and better instruction for their children in the structure and functions of county government. And co-ordinately with a wider knowledge of forms and functions there should be instruction as to the rights and duties, privileges and responsibilities of citizenship. A well informed citizenry can be a mighty bulwark against abuses in the administration of local governmental affairs.

CONCLUSION—County government on the Eastern Shore of Maryland is not perfect, either in structure or administration. The imperfection of both sorts can be minimized if the citizen of the Shore will develop a greater personal interest in local political affairs, and participate to a greater extent in the practical operation of government in their respective counties.

It is the opinion of this writer that county government as exemplified on the Eastern Shore is as good as will be found anywhere else in the United States. Government anywhere can be only as good as the type of officials elected to public office. Covering a period of many years there have been relatively few cases of maladministration or scandal among public officials in the Shore counties. Such as have occurred have been brought to book, and have served as warnings to others who might also be tempted to deviate from the path of rectitude in official responsibility. The high stability of the population seems to indicate that the people are generally well satisfied with life as it is lived on the Shore. Whenever they want a change of public officials they set about to make that change through the elective process. As long as county officers perform their duties honestly and well they are usually accorded continuance in office. The people of the Shore have never shown much interest in modern innovations in government such as the county manager system, proportional representation, and the short-ballot. They know their present system fairly well, having proved its worth and efficiency over a long period of time. This, in itself, tends to produce political stability. Conservatism also tends to discourage the adoption of new and untried reforms. The type of county government now in existence on the Shore works, and as long as it does so to the satisfaction of the governed, there is no need for radical change. And this, after all, is the criterion by which all political institutions should be judged.

NOTES, CHAPTER XXVIII

1. Howell, William R., *The Government of Kent County, Maryland*, p. 20. (Note: Much of the material and information of general nature used in this Chapter has been taken from the author's book, *The Government of Kent County, Maryland*, where due credit has been given. The principal sources from which the material was originally obtained are: *The Archives of Maryland*, *Bacon's Laws*, *The General Statutes of Maryland*, and *Bagby's Annotated Code*).

2. Bagby, *Annotated Code of Maryland*, Article 26, Section 38.

3. Kimball, *The National Government of the United States*, p. 398.

4. Phelps, *Juridical Equity*, p. 190.

5. *Inventory of the County and Town Archives of Maryland*, No. 22 Wicomico County (1940), p. 19.

6. Howell, *The Government of Kent County, Maryland*, pp. 83, 84.

7. Bagby, *Annotated Code of Maryland*, Article 93, Sections 243-246.
8. *Constitution of Maryland* 1864, Article IV, Section 50; 1867, Article IV, Section 45.
9. *Archives of Maryland*, Vol. XIX, p. 78.
10. *Laws of Maryland*, 1825, Chapter 162.
11. *Maryland Constitutions*, 1864, Article VIII; 1867, Article VIII. See also Howell, *The Government of Kent County, Maryland*, Chapter V.
12. *Registration and Election Laws of Maryland* (1946), p. 5.
13. *Registration and Election Laws of Maryland*, (1946), pp. 64 ff.
14. *Election Laws of Maryland* (1946), pp. 100-103.
15. Munro, *Governments of Europe* (Copyright, 1925, by The Macmillan Co.), p. 283. Used with their permission.

CHAPTER XXIX

*Population — Demographic Basis of Stability*¹

By Frank Goodwin*

A basic phenomenon in any area and sociological survey is population. Students in recent years point out with increasing frequency the necessity of utilizing population data in describing and analyzing social behavior and institutions. "The facts of population are related directly or indirectly to most of the major problems of social and national life. Growth is one of the chief extra-social factors of culture change; increase in numbers and density forces men into new relations with the land and into increased contacts with their fellow men. Excessive multiplication is responsible in large measure for international rivalry and conflict. The scale of living, the character of the political institutions, the degree and types of exploitation of vital power, the prevailing social philosophy, and other cultural phenomena are conditioned by and in turn condition the character of the population."² It is significant that many introductory texts, including Ross' *New-Age Sociology*, begin with a consideration of population.³

The culture of the Eastern Shore is characterized by stability, relatively slow change, no sharp break with the past, and a simple, slowly changing frame of reference which the common man has little difficulty in understanding and using. This chapter will make clear what part in this way of life is played by demographic factors. "(Other) factors which affect the forms of association of rural people are the nature of the rural population, the number and kinds of people living in a given area, the proportion of rural and urban population, the location of the rural people's residences, and their occupations. Differences in age, sex distribution, marital status, fertility, and death rates also affect the types of groupings in various rural areas,"⁴ including the one under study.

DENSITY

The Eastern Shore of Maryland is composed of nine counties having an area of 3,383⁵ square miles and a population in 1940 of 195,427. The population density for the area is 57.7 persons per square mile. In 1930 the density was 57.2. For comparative purposes the density for the United States in 1930 was 41.3; in 1940, 44.2. For the State of Maryland as a whole it was 161.4 in 1930, 184.2 in 1940.

* Native of Georgia; A.B., A.M., Vanderbilt University; Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania; from 1931 to 1947, except for three years during World War II, when he served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy, Dr. Goodwin was a member of the Department of Economics and Sociology at Washington College. He served also as Administrative Assistant and as Field Representative. At the present he is a member of the faculty at the University of Florida. This chapter is taken with permission from his book, *A Story of Personal and Social Organizations: An Explorative Survey of the Eastern Shore of Maryland* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1944).

The density for individual counties varies from 90.9 in Wicomico down to 38.8 in Queen Anne's. The density of 57 is not a representative figure except in the case of one county (Caroline). It is more informative to give the area and density by counties.

TABLE I

AREA AND POPULATION OF EASTERN SHORE COUNTIES IN 1930, 1940 AND 1949

<i>County</i>	<i>Area (square miles)</i>	<i>Population 1940</i>	<i>Density 1940 (persons per square mile)</i>	<i>Change in Density 1939-1940</i>	<i>Estimated Population 1949</i>
Caroline	320	17,549	54.8	-0.7	18,900
Cecil	352	26,407	75.0	6.5	29,600
Dorchester	580	28,006	48.3	1.8	29,600
Kent	284	13,465	47.4	-3.1	14,500
Queen Anne's	373	14,476	38.8	-1.1	15,400
Somerset	332	20,965	63.1	-7.5	21,800
Talbot	279	18,784	67.3	2.0	19,500
Wicomico	380	34,530	90.9	6.7	38,800
Worcester	483	21,245	44.0	0.3	22,500
All	3,383	195,427	57.7 ⁶	0.5 ⁷	210,600

As noted, the variation in density among the nine counties is great. This variation is largely accounted for by the fact that incorporated towns of over 2,500 are rare on "The Shore." When a county contains one of the larger towns, its density is greatly increased *compared* to that of counties which do not have "large" towns in them. The rate of growth in the larger towns is also likely to influence the rate of growth in its county to such an extent as to give a false impression of the increase for the county.

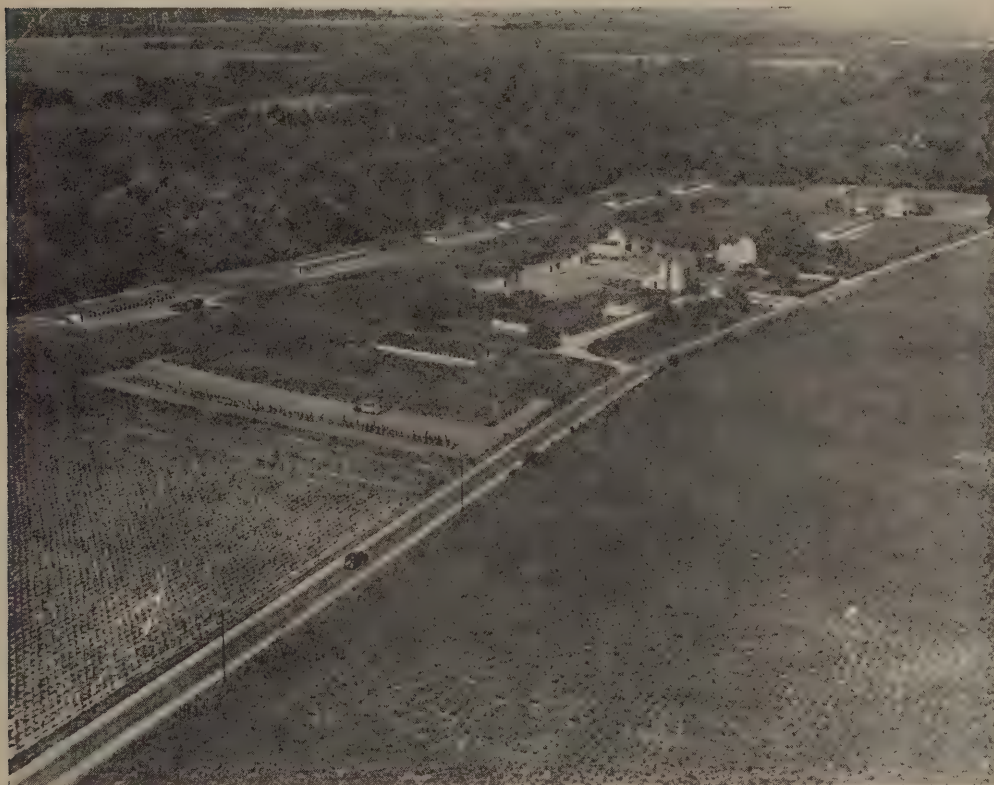
There are only seven towns on "The Shore" which had a population in 1930 of more than 2,500. The largest was Salisbury in Wicomico County with a population of 10,997. The next largest town was Cambridge in Dorchester with 8,544. There were no other towns with 5,000 inhabitants in the entire area. In 1940 there were still only seven towns with populations above 2,500 but Salisbury had increased to 13,313 and Cambridge, still the second largest, to 10,102. There were yet no other towns in the area with 5,000 inhabitants.

If the population of the incorporated towns over 2,500 is taken from the population of the counties and then the densities are calculated on the remaining inhabitants, a more accurate picture is secured. County densities calculated on this basis fall between (approximately) forty to sixty per square mile. This shows the Eastern Shore as a very thickly populated farming area. A later discussion will consider the relatively high number of villages in the area. The presence of these villages helps explain the exceptional density of population in this area of farms.

The urban population of the Shore is 40,778 while the non-urban is 154,549 (both figures 1940). The density of non-urban population for the region is therefore 45.8 per square mile. This is high.⁸ The density of non-urban population for the Delmarva area as a whole is slightly lower but is still decidedly above comparable farm area. "The relatively high density of population in the (Delmarva) area is not caused by the presence of large numbers of urban dwellers. In 1940 the area contained only eleven places classified as urban by the census.

... The rural density ... 44.2 persons (per square miles), a figure exceeding that of Iowa, the nation's best agricultural state."⁹ It should be noted that for the Delmarva area, as for the Eastern Shore, a large part of the rural population is not farm population. For the Delmarva area, in 1930, the ratio was fourteen non-farm to twelve farm in the non-urban group. The village folks are a strikingly important element.

The relatively high density of population on the Eastern Shore means that contacts between the folks within the area are numerous. Physical barriers



*Eglantine, A Typical Eastern Shore Farm, Greensboro,
Owned by Walter Farlow and Reuben S. Esham*

and, what is more important, a satisfaction with the ways of doing things limit effective contacts with outsiders. Outsiders who move into the territory have different values and habits but they are in a minority ... and hence have little influence on the culture of the Shore as a whole. If outsiders take an active interest in many affairs—"try to tell us how to run things they know nothing about"—reaction is strong. Population density sets the stage for in-group contacts. Small centers of population allow the average citizen to "know most everybody" in several centers. Communities are not abstractions: they are well-known and identifiable folks.

POPULATION CHANGE ON THE EASTERN SHORE

The Eastern Shore has had little change in population since 1900. Figures on this change are given in Table II.

TABLE II

POPULATION OF THE EASTERN SHORE OF MARYLAND—1870-1940—
BY TEN-YEAR INTERVALS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Per cent increase or decrease in the preceeding ten years</i>
1870	157,254	
1880	179,134	13.9%
1890	184,097	2.7%
1900	196,004	6.4%
1910	200,171	2.1%
1920	194,568	-2.7%
1930	193,658	-0.4%
1940	195,427	0.9%

The change is plotted on the semilogarithmic graph (Graph I) along with the rate of population change in Maryland's largest city, Baltimore; in the State of Maryland; and in the United States as a whole.

From a survey of table and graph it is evident that the population on the Shore today is less than it was in 1900. The population in the area increased until 1910 but in the decade 1900 to 1910 apparently overran the density most suitable¹⁰ for the area. The twenty years between 1910 and 1930 saw a gradual decline of population to restore it to a level of approximately 195,000. The slight increase between 1930 and 1940 did not change the picture. Unless there should be some fundamental change in the economic and social organization of the Eastern Shore, the assumption of a population of about the present size seems justified. It is significant that a stable ratio between population and land was established half a century ago. Stability in the basic phenomenon, population foreshadows stability in social relationships and institutions. Population changes, since there were so few, could not have been casual factors in any social and economic changes. Clearly where there are population shifts and trends, the adjustments made essential by such shifts can not be avoided. With a stable population it is possible for other relations also to be stable. The stability of population as a requisite basis for stability in social adjustments and social institutions should not be overlooked.

If the stability for the area were merely statistical (i.e., some portions gaining and other portions losing in such a way as to result in an average which didn't show much change) it would not be significant. To show that the stability is not just an average but is a characteristic of the area, each of the nine counties were examined. The summary of such an examination of the nine counties shows:

- 5 counties lost population between 1930 and 1940
- 6 counties lost population between 1920 and 1930
- 7 counties lost population between 1910 and 1920
- 4 counties lost population between 1900 and 1910

Another way to show that population stability is characteristic of the area as a whole is to show the percentage changes in population for ten-year periods by counties for the past thirty years, also the total change by counties in the past forty years. Table III serves this purpose.

GRAPH I
RATE OF POPULATION CHANGE
UNITED STATES, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, EASTERN SHORE
1890 - 1940

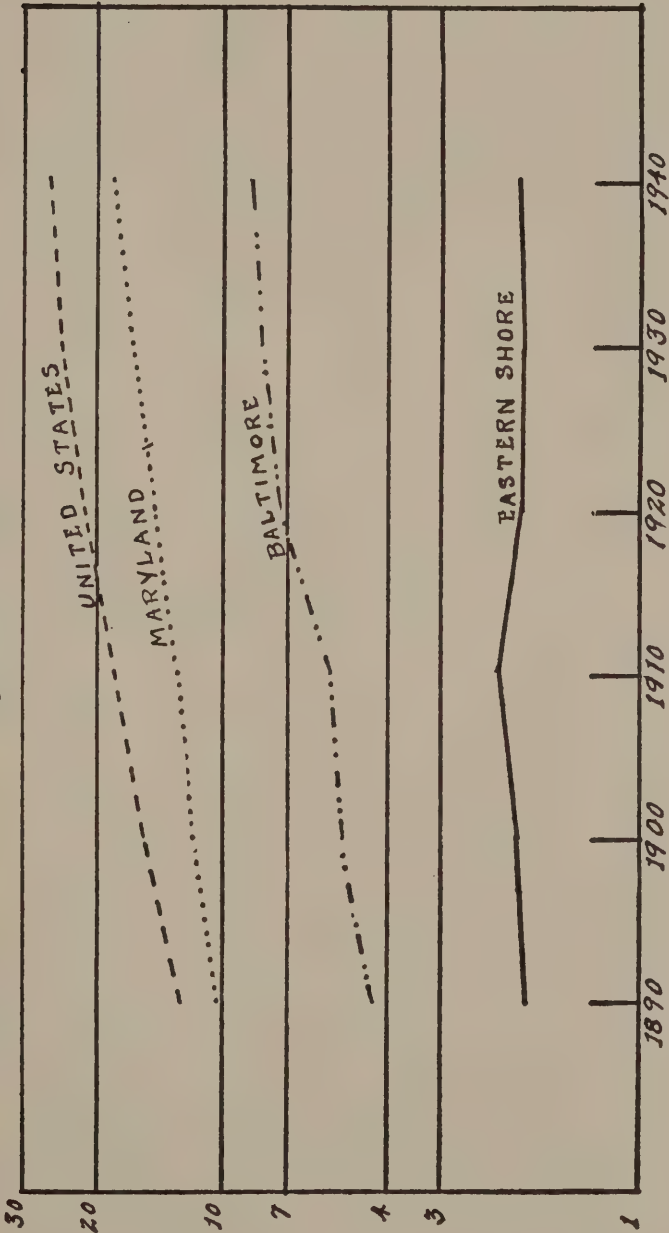


TABLE III

POPULATION CHANGES IN EASTERN SHORE COUNTIES—1900-1940

County	(1) Change	(2) Change	(3) Change	(4) Change	(5) Change Average Annual
	1910-1920	1920-1930	1930-1940	Total 1900-1940	in 40 years
Caroline	- 2.9%	- 6.8	- 0.5	+ 7.9	0.20%
Cecil	- 0.6%	9.3	1.4	+ 6.9	0.15%
Dorchester	- 2.7%	- 3.8	2.0	- 0.1	0.00%
Kent	-11.3%	- 5.2	- 2.8	-17.9	0.45%
Queen Anne's	- 4.9%	- 8.9	- 0.2	-21.2	0.53%
Somerset	- 7.0%	- 4.9	- 8.1	-20.3	0.50%
Talbot	- 6.7%	1.5	0.8	- 7.7	0.19%
Wicomico	5.0%	10.8	8.6	+50.7	1.26%
Worcester	2.1%	- 3.0	- 0.5	+ 2.5	0.06%

When it is realized that the first three columns represent ten-year changes and the fourth column represents the total change in forty years, how small the annual changes have been is emphasized. In column five, the average annual change exceeds one-half of one per cent only in Wicomico (neglecting the bare excesses in the cases of Queen Anne's and Somerset because the excesses are so small).

It is interesting to see what part of even this small annual change is due to changes in population in urban centers rather than in farm or rural-non-farm population. Wicomico County shows the highest population gain. The change from 1900 to 1940 was 50.7%. This is a growth of 11,581. In this county is Salisbury, the largest town on the Shore. The rapid increases of population and density in Wicomico County are due largely to the growth of Salisbury in the past twenty years. "Salisbury's growth in the last decade was more rapid than any other Maryland city."¹¹ This increase was 45.6% between 1920 and 1930. Between 1930 and 1940, Salisbury's gain was 21.1%. Its population increase from 1900 to 1930 was 6,720 (1900 population was 4,277 and 1930 was 10,997). The county gained in this same period 8,377. It is clear that the population gain in thirty years in the entire county except Salisbury was only 1,657. This represents an increase of about 55 persons in the county per year.

Caroline County shows an increase of 1,139 inhabitants from 1910 to 1930. In this period two towns, Denton and Federalsburg, show an increase of 704 and 830 respectively. This means that Caroline County, outside of Federalsburg and Denton, has shown a decline instead of an increase.

Cecil County shows an increase of 1,165 in the thirty years following 1900. More than two-thirds of this increase (67.7%) is accounted for by the growth of Elkton—Cecil's largest town.

According to the 1940 Census, the increases shown for the counties are actually, to a major extent, in Salisbury, Cambridge, Easton, and Elkton. Wicomico County (Salisbury) and Dorchester County (Cambridge) showed a decrease outside of the large towns in them.

It is possible to account for virtually all increases on the Eastern Shore since 1900 as growth of towns. The villages, the farm population, and the population of the majority of the towns remained stationary or showed a slight tendency to decrease. It is a safe statement that population stability characterizes the area as a whole, with the exceptions already noted, and that this stability is not just a result of compensating changes in various sections of the "Shore."

This stability does not mean that there was a balance of births and deaths. In the past this area has produced a surplus of people who, in a large portion of the cases, left home when they reached the productive period of their lives. Most of these went to the cities, the larger part to Baltimore. In the past two decades the birth rate has fallen rapidly and the excesses of births over deaths have grown smaller. Table IV shows the change in a series of selected years from 1920 to 1935.¹² The white population, births per thousand, is used.

TABLE IV
CHANGE IN EASTERN SHORE WHITE BIRTH RATES IN SELECTED YEARS
BY COUNTIES—1920-1935

County	Year				% Decrease 1920-1936
	1920	1925	1930	1935	
Caroline	23.1	18.1	16.5	16.6	28.1%
Cecil	22.4	23.2	19.9	15.7	29.9
Dorchester	26.9	23.6	19.2	15.5	42.4
Kent	21.5	14.5	12.6	11.8	45.1
Queen Anne's	21.1	17.8	18.1	13.1	37.9
Somerset	24.7	20.1	17.9	14.6	40.9
Talbot	22.0	19.5	19.4	16.9	23.2
Wicomico	22.3	19.5	18.4	14.0	37.2
Worcester	20.0	20.3	15.7	9.3	53.5

In 1935 the excess of births over deaths for the entire area was 450. In 1922, the earliest year for which data¹³ are available, the surplus was 1,756. Thus, in thirteen years there has been a decrease of 74.4%. There is no longer pressure to force population to migrate—surplus population is not being created, although the 1950 Census may bear out the estimates of population as of 1947, listed above.

In the past a stability between population and land has been achieved through the operations of factors which drained off the excess of births over deaths. The size of this surplus has decreased decidedly in the past few years so that little movement will be necessary in the immediate future to maintain a relatively fixed ratio of people to area. . . . An adjustment has been achieved. In fact those recruiting labor to leave the Eastern Shore are surprised and disappointed that the supply is so meagre. These recruiters find that the majority of folks would rather live on the Shore with a lower income than to go into crowded, disorganized, inflated urban centers with a higher income. One says, "How thoroughly this reservoir (of man power) has either been depleted or else is reluctant to leave the area, is reflected in a statement by Mr. Hopkins Moore, of the Maryland State Employment Service at Cambridge, in June, 1940. This was to the effect that in a recent drive for workers for the Baltimore plant of the Glenn L. Martin Company, only about 250 workers were located in that half

of the Delmarva Area. Moreover, the three nearby counties had sent only about 100 workers to be trained at the Martin plant. What is more astonishing, only 44 high school students indicated a willingness to take such training and many of these specified that such training must be provided locally rather than in the Baltimore area."¹⁴

Possibly it will solve the apparent mystery for those recruiting folks to leave the Eastern Shore to know that their unsatisfactory degree of success is



Horse and Buggy Days in Pittsville

due more largely to population factors and the Shoreman's reluctance to leave his beloved Shore than it is to the lack of ability in soliciting. The natives have for decades been reluctant to migrate, but the pressure of more births than deaths has forced many to leave in the past; at present such pressure is inoperative. Few, relatively, are tempted, but even these few are enough, in a delicately balanced ratio of men to land, to create a problem. That a few could create a problem serves to show how effectively, in a stable social organization, factors have operated to produce a satisfactory balance. In line with this, it is easy to understand, when a few men, more or less, make a difference, the individual is valued. Where the individual is valued, personal disorganization should be at a minimum.

Before leaving the subject of migration, it is well to note the problem of selection. Controversy as to whether an area is depleted, whether the able leave and the sub-average stay behind, is too complicated a problem to be investigated thoroughly in the present work. Studies of the selective factors in migration are available. It is patently true that the adjusted remain and the maladjusted migrate. There is contention that those of higher intelligence, being more dissatisfied with stability and the *status quo*, migrate; the folks staying at home

become cumulatively worse and worse. One writer says, "The long continued out-migration from the Eastern Shore has already had its effect on the quality of its human stock. Migration has been persistent, ruthless, and selective. Although the original settlers were the equal of most colonial stock, the superior to that of many areas, the emigration of the biologically abler element has left, generation after generation, the less able to propagate. Love and Davenport, from studying draftees during World War I, found a feeble-mindedness rate of more than 44 per thousand among men from the Eastern Shore. This was 50 per cent higher than the rate among men from the North Carolina hill counties, nearly four times as high as rural New Jersey or Kansas, seven times as high as rural Montana or Nevada, and twice as high as rural Alabama. This was before the greatest out-migration of all which occurred in the 1920s. Today the results would appear progressively worse."¹⁵

To accept the above position as true with such flimsy evidence as can be mustered to support it would be absurd. The reader is undoubtedly aware of the mass criticism that has been directed at the earlier intelligence tests and testing as exemplified by the draft army data. How difficult it is to decide and to define who or what are the "biologically abler element" is well known. To decide that the abler element left by examining those remaining and not examining the migrating group is faulty, highly (unjustifiable) deductive methodology. The assumption that feeble-mindedness, largely or entirely, is inherited is indeed questionable.¹⁶ There is little use to bore readers with all the other fallacies and assumptions, implicit and explicit, in this reasoning. The only conclusion justified by the data is that this sample of the men from this region scored less of whatever these tests measured than was scored by samples of men from certain other areas. What this means, in terms of social adjustment, or of individual adjustment, depends upon the interpretation of the various writers one elects to follow.

This should not be construed to mean that the present writer feels there is no chance that the Eastern Shore folks show lower I. Q.'s than urban folks, or even lower than other non-urban people. At present the contention is merely that such a situation is not proven by such data as quoted. Proving, or disproving, such a thesis would be interesting, but too long and complex a problem for this survey to undertake.

The Eastern Shore's loss of population through migration is a part of a total picture of rural areas supplying urban population. "There has been much discussion of the bad effect of migration upon rural life, based upon the assumption that the best young people are leaving the country. Thus Professor E. A. Ross has held that there is a continuous 'folk depletion.' The opposite point of view is taken by Sorokin and Zimmerman, who conclude that 'There is no valid evidence that migration to the cities is selective in the sense that cities attract in a greater proportion those from the country who are better physically, vitally, mentally, morally, or socially, and leave in the country those who are poorer in all these respects.' Recent studies on the differential of the mental ability of the migrants are conflicting, and it will require much more research before any satisfactory conclusions with regard to the matter can be reached. It is believed, however, that no evidence has been brought forward which indicates any genetic inferiority of those who remain in the country, as has been assumed by some recent writers."¹⁷

If additional studies establish that a considerable portion of the Eastern Shoremen are subnormal by, or deviate negatively from, the norm of "The

Great Society,"¹⁸ substance is again lent to the position, "The researches of the social pathologists may indicate that the concept of normality may properly be varied with reference to time and place. An intelligence quotient adequate to meet the social demands of backward races may not prove adequate for the requirements of our higher contemporary civilization. A standard of living adequate in the reign of Queen Elizabeth would at many points fail to meet the exigencies of contemporary life. A person able to make adjustments in backward rural areas may be incapable of effective social participation in the New York City, Chicago, or Los Angeles of today,"¹⁹ or in the draft army of a few decades ago.

DIVISION OF THE POPULATION AS TO RURAL AND URBAN

In the 1930 Census 18.7% of the population of the Eastern Shore is "Urban," 36.7% is "Rural, Farm," and 44.5% is "Rural, Non-Farm." In 1940 the urban population was 20.8% of the total. Of the 195,427 people, nearly 41,000 lived in incorporated towns of over 2,500. The increase in urban population was 4,546. The population outside the urban centers decreased nearly three thousand. In spite of the increase in urban population only two counties showed as much as a fourth of the people so classified. It should be noted that 57% of the urban group lived in the two largest towns, and there were no other towns with as many as 5,000 inhabitants. In 1940 79.2% still lived in rural sections. This is a comparatively large percentage of non-urban population. The 44.5% of rural, non-farm (in 1940), is especially striking and to throw this into contrast there is presented the rural-urban percentages for selected areas in the component bar-charts (Graph II). Nine out of every twenty people in this section lived in small (below 2,500 population) villages. This phenomenon of village population is striking to a newcomer to the Eastern Shore; small towns and village communities are numerous and on any slight elevation (few even slight elevations in this section) one can usually see several such small communities. The urban population (20.8%) plays a comparatively small part in the culture as a considerable portion of these urban dwellers are dependent upon agriculture for a livelihood, either directly or indirectly.

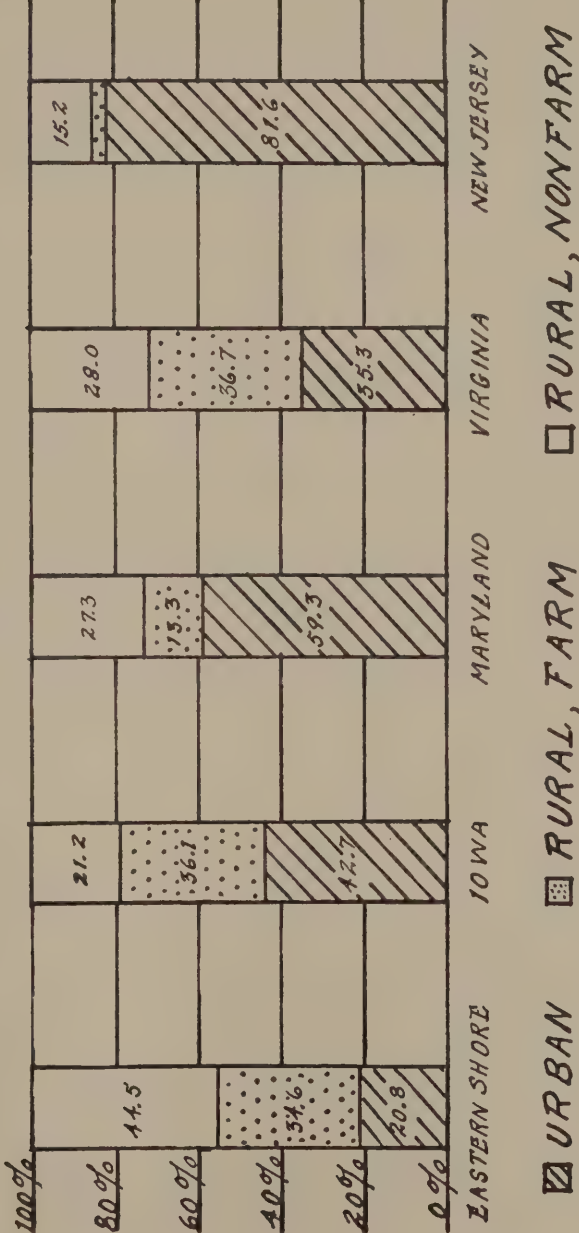
The distribution of incorporated places by the size of the communities is seen in Table V.

TABLE V

INCORPORATED TOWNS ON THE EASTERN SHORE—1940—BY POPULATION GROUPS AND COUNTIES

<i>County</i>	<i>Under 500</i>	<i>500-999</i>	<i>1,000-1,499</i>	<i>1,500-1,999</i>	<i>2,000-2,499</i>	<i>2,500 and over</i>
Caroline	6	1	0	2	0	0
Cecil	2	3	2	0	0	1
Dorchester	3	1	0	0	0	1
Kent	3	1	0	0	0	1
Queen Anne's	5	0	1	0	0	0
Somerset	0	1	0	0	0	1
Talbot	1	1	1	0	0	1
Wicomico	2	2	1	0	0	1
Worcester	0	0	2	1	0	1
—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All	22	10	7	3	0	7

GRAPH II
RURAL-URBAN COMPOSITION OF POPULATION
SELECTED AREAS
1940



The typical pattern is for each county to have one town between 2,500 and 5,000. There are two counties not having a town large enough to come in this range but Caroline's Denton has 1,572 folks and Queen Anne's Centerville has 1,141. This "large" town serves as the county seat; the trading center; the legal center, and the residence of a large part of the professional group serving the non-urban group. In only Salisbury and Cambridge can more than this be claimed for the "large" towns. In this pattern, the towns' close relation to, and dependence on, the rural portion of the people is evident. It is easy to understand why the county centers are dominated by the attitudes of the rural group. The domination is, naturally, even more complete in the small villages and hamlets.

While there are only 49 incorporated towns on the Shore, the *United States Postal Guide* (1937) lists 166 post offices. A post office indicates a settlement of some size and since the post offices in unincorporated towns outnumber those in incorporated towns by 117 to 49, the fact that the relatively large number of communities are hamlets and villages rather than towns is emphasized. Of the 49 post offices in incorporated towns, well over two-thirds of these are in villages of less than 1,000 population and over 80% of them are in settlements of less than 1,500 people.

Nor should sight be lost of the fact that not nearly all hamlets have post offices. For example, in Kent County for which the *Postal Guide* lists 13 post offices, the writer can think of small settlements not listed: Pomona, Fairlee, Locust Grove, Morgnac, Chesterville, Quaker Neck Landing, Cliff City, and Edensville. There are undoubtedly some others forgotten. The potential list of settlements is indeed imposing. That small communities, hamlets, settlements, villages, etc., should be so numerous and towns of any size should be so few will undoubtedly be reflected in the social phenomena of this area.

COMPOSITION OF THE POPULATION BY NATIVITY AND RACE

In 1930²⁰ the population of "The Shore" was 69.6% native born white of native parents, 26.0% was Negro, 3.1% was native white of foreign or mixed parents, and 1.3% was foreign born. To compare this with selected areas we present Graph III of component pies on the following page. The comparison of populations of different areas shows that the Eastern Shore is largely a population of native white of native parentage and Negro. Shades of Puritans, fine old families and baked beans, Boston, Massachusetts, shows native born of native parentage to be a minority group—but decidedly. So does Philadelphia and New York. Baltimore shows the native of native parentage to be in a slight minority. The 69.6% of native whites of native parents on the Eastern Shore begins to look big.

Most writers about this area emphasize the purity of the white stock. Charles J. Truitt in *Historic Salisbury Maryland* says, "It has often been said that a purer strain of Anglo-Saxon blood courses through the veins of the Eastern Shore native than can be found among the inhabitants of any other area in America."²¹ This English background is emphasized in the names of towns and counties in the area (Kent, Queen Anne's, Cambridge, Oxford, etc.) It is not unusual for widely-traveled visitors to be struck by the similarity of the Eastern Shore of Maryland of today to rural England of a couple of decades ago.

Charles B. Clark states, "As late as 1910, ninety-two per cent of the 200,000

GRAPH III

Composition of Population by Nativity and Race — 1930

SELECTED AREAS

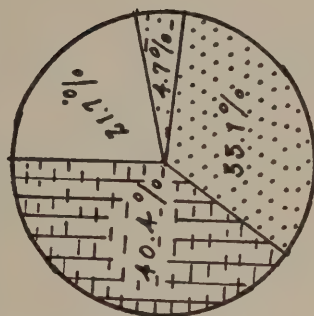
UNITED STATES



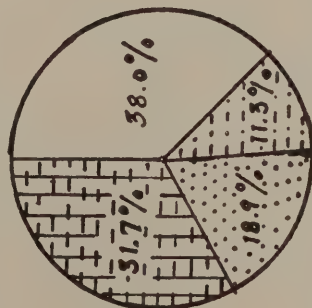
MARYLAND



NEW YORK CITY



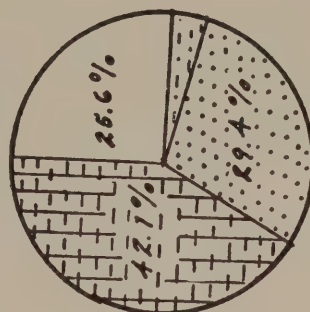
PHILADELPHIA



EASTERN SHORE



BOSTON



□ NATIVE WHITE OF NATIVE PARENTS ▨ FOREIGN BORN,
 ■ NEGRO ▩ OTHERS

whites on the Eastern Shore were native born, of native parents, and in most cases of old English stock."²²

It is significant that when a memorial marker was erected at Caulk's Field it was dedicated to "friend" and "foe" alike. It was here that a minor engagement between the Kent County militia and a British force under Sir Peter Parker occurred in 1814. The marker was erected in 1902 "By Marylanders To Commemorate The Patriotism And Fortitude Of the Victor And Vanquished."

The Eastern Shore has an even greater homogeneity in racial stock than is reflected by the fact that (in 1930) nearly seventy per cent of its population were native-born white of native born parents. Even when the people came and settled here several generations ago they were largely of the same racial background. Living together in the same area has merely increased the homogeneity that was there from the beginning. Conflicts which arise from a diversity of racial and cultural backgrounds have been absent. Social and personal adjustment have been facilitated. The common heritage has emphasized the "consciousness of kind" and has resulted in an acute community awareness and pride. This entire complex places a high premium on "belonging" and gives motivation to individuals to adjust.

In addition to the 69.6% of white native born of native parents, the 26% of the Negro population (in 1930) must be added since the Negro is also native born of native parents. This brings the native born on the Shore up to 95.6%. This is an extremely high ratio. The high ratio prevails throughout the great majority of all the counties rather than being merely a statistical average. Six of the nine counties have populations composed of native whites of native parentage and Negroes to the extent of 95% or more; all the nine have 90% or above of these two groups. Somerset has the highest proportion with its 98.2%. The proportion of Negroes varies from 10% in Cecil to 34.6% in Somerset. The part of the various county populations composed of native whites of native parentage varies between 62.9% in Talbot to 80% in Cecil. Foreign born whites and native born whites of foreign or mixed parentage is combined; this combination constitutes from 1.7% in Somerset up to 9.9% in Cecil. While the proportion of the population which falls into the various groups varies considerably from county to county, there is no uniform pattern that can be pointed out at this time.

Dr. William R. Howell,²³ who is familiar with the area through thirty years of residence and observation, says, "The White-Negro relations are more typical of a moderately conservative community than the extreme south." The bi-racial organization is along strict caste lines. Jim Crow laws are enforced rigidly and residences segregated. Schools are separate and until recent years there was a marked differential in the salary scales of white and Negro teachers. These patterns are so much a part of the culture that the separations, like "most segregation, as enforced on any minority, are accomplished without the necessity for being bolstered by legislation, which, after all, can do no more than give formal authority for a course of action already popularly accepted."²⁴

The bi-racial definitions are not as rigid and as detailed on minor social and cultural contacts as those reported by Dr. Dollard in his work on the small southern town. The major taboos, such as Negro male approaching the white woman in any intimate manner, are rigidly enforced. The violation of major taboos is likely to result in violence on the part of white mobs. On the whole, these periods of violence are infrequent. The racial division of labor is not definite. A definite division in an agricultural area such as the Eastern Shore would be diffi-

cult to imagine. The same is true of the water pursuits except in charter parties of sporting fishermen.

This indefinite division of labor, if it resulted in direct competition between whites and Negroes to any marked degree would probably increase racial conflict since, "Group antagonisms seem to be inevitable when two peoples in contact with each other may be distinguished by differentiating characteristics, either inborn or cultural, and are actual or potential competitors."²⁵ Direct competition is not evident to the competitors to any marked degree for at least two major reasons. First, a surplus supply of labor in agricultural pursuits, or in water pursuits, is difficult for the laborers involved to detect. Second, surplus population produced in an area where births have outnumbered deaths for many decades and the accepted solution has been migration, do not regard the local area as the place they must make a living.

To prevent straying too far afield, attention is turned to the more immediate interest in this survey. Racial conflicts are, in the opinion of the white group, not great. Certainly the Eastern Shoreman would be rare who would seriously consider the proposition that the amount of racial antagonism present would result in sufficient social disorganization to be reflected in any personal disorganization. Many quotations could be found but a typical one is used.

In spite of the large number of Negroes in the region there is really no race problem. Generally they are a quiet law-abiding group of low economic and cultural status. Occasionally, especially in the lower part of the Shore, tragedies arouse the community and there is for a season intense feeling against the race featured by sporadic outbursts. The percentage of foreign born in the region is negligible, averaging in the nine counties only 1.6 per cent. . . . The foreign group consists for the most part of Jews engaged in retail selling and scattered groups of Lithuanians, Bohemians, and Germans engaged in farming on a small scale. These small minority groups are generally accepted both socially and economically.²⁶

Attention is turned at this point to the historical aspects of the composition of population in this section. To summarize the trends in the area by counties Table VI A is presented. For the area as a whole, the native whites of native parentage have shown a steady though irregular gain as a component part of the population. In 1870 this group constituted 61.9% of the total, at successive ten-year intervals (figures were not available in 1880), 64.9% in 1890, 65.5% in 1900, 67.4% in 1910, 67.7% in 1920, and 69.6% in 1930. On the other hand the Negro element has steadily, but irregularly, declined in importance as a component part of the population of the section. In 1870 the Negro constituted 34.2% of the total; in 1880, 33.2%; in 1890 this had decreased to 32.1%; in 1900 to 31.1%; in 1910 to 29.5%; and 1920 to 28.3%; and in 1930 it was down to 26.0%. The foreign born have always since 1870 constituted between 1.1% and 1.3%. The native born whites of foreign born or mixed parentage have fluctuated, without any trend, between 1.9% and 3.1% of the total. The high point, 3.1% was reached in 1930. The next highest point, 2.6% was reached in 1870 and again in 1920. The lowest point, 1.9%, was in 1890. For the area as a whole it is clear that the native whites of native parentage have been gaining as a component of the total population at the expense of the Negro. The groups, other than these two, have remained relatively constant in their importance as per-

TABLE VI A
CHANGES IN POPULATION COMPOSITION IN THE EASTERN SHORE COUNTIES BY RACE AND NATIVITY FROM 1870 TO 1930 BY
TEN-YEAR INTERVALS

County	Group	1870			1880			1890			1900			1910			1920			1930		
		No.	% of Total		No.	% of Total		No.	% of Total		No.	% of Total		No.	% of Total		No.	% of Total		No.	% of Total	
Caroline	Nat. White, Nat. Parent.	8,095	66.8		9,570	68.8		11,270	69.3		13,436	69.9		13,163	70.5		12,379	71.2		12,379	71.2	
	Negro	3,758	31.0		3,811	27.4		4,237	26.0		4,787	24.9		4,445	23.8		3,677	21.1		3,677	21.1	
	Others	248	2.0		522	3.7		741	4.5		993	5.1		1,045	5.6		1,331	7.6		1,331	7.6	
Cecil	Nat. White, Nat. Parent.	18,336	70.8		19,421	75.1		18,657	75.6		18,477	77.7		18,460	78.1		20,672	80.0		20,672	80.0	
	Negro	4,014	15.4		4,001	15.4		3,305	15.4		3,315	13.9		2,908	12.3		2,595	10.0		2,595	10.0	
	Others	3,524	13.6		2,429	3.4		2,200	8.9		1,967	8.2		2,244	9.5		2,560	9.9		2,560	9.9	
Dorchester	Nat. White, Nat. Parent.	11,815	60.7		15,797	63.5		17,031	63.0		18,152	63.3		18,165	65.1		17,985	67.1		17,985	67.1	
	Negro	7,556	38.3		8,710	36.0		9,484	33.9		9,421	32.8		8,719	31.2		7,880	29.2		7,880	29.2	
	Others	87	0.4		336	1.3		847	3.0		1,096	3.8		1,011	3.6		998	3.7		998	3.7	
Kent	Nat. White, Nat. Parent.	3,458	49.4		9,985	57.1		10,668	56.7		10,188	60.1		9,071	60.3		9,129	64.1		9,129	64.1	
	Negro	7,732	45.2		6,807	38.9		7,442	39.6		6,162	36.3		5,246	34.9		4,437	31.1		4,437	31.1	
	Others	912	5.3		679	3.8		676	3.6		607	3.5		709	4.7		676	4.7		676	4.7	
Queen Anne's	Nat. White, Nat. Parent.	9,195	56.3		11,440	61.9		11,549	62.8		10,631	63.1		10,375	64.8		9,692	66.5		9,692	66.5	
	Negro	6,592	40.7		6,557	35.5		6,372	34.7		6,814	34.5		6,154	32.2		4,879	30.0		4,879	30.0	
	Others	384	2.3		464	2.5		443	2.4		394	2.3		472	2.9		500	3.4		500	3.4	
Somerset	Nat. White, Nat. Parent.	10,747	59.0		14,464	59.3		16,033	61.8		16,567	62.6		15,279	62.1		14,869	63.6		14,869	63.6	
	Negro	7,274	39.9		9,505	39.3		9,533	36.7		9,476	35.8		8,889	36.1		8,111	34.6		8,111	34.6	
	Others	169	0.9		186	0.7		357	1.3		412	1.5		434	1.7		402	1.7		402	1.7	
Talbot	Nat. White, Nat. Parent.	8,993	55.7		11,374	57.6		11,985	58.9		11,973	61.0		11,309	61.7		11,703	62.9		11,703	62.9	
	Negro	6,666	41.3		7,488	37.9		7,466	36.7		6,774	34.5		6,165	33.6		5,943	31.9		5,943	31.9	
	Others	478	3.0		874	4.4		891	4.3		873	4.4		832	4.5		937	5.2		937	5.2	
Wicomico	Nat. White, Nat. Parent.	11,287	71.4		14,585	73.1		16,915	74.0		20,215	75.3		21,332	75.7		23,331	76.3		23,331	76.3	
	Negro	4,406	27.8		5,199	26.0		5,828	25.5		6,310	23.5		6,407	22.7		6,750	21.6		6,750	21.6	
	Others	109	0.6		146	0.7		109	0.4		290	1.0		426	1.5		648	2.0		648	2.0	
Worcester	Nat. White, Nat. Parent.	10,465	63.7		12,907	65.3		13,777	66.0		14,537	66.5		14,707	65.9		14,510	67.1		14,510	67.1	
	Negro	5,869	35.7		6,735	34.1		6,371	32.9		7,025	32.9		7,224	32.3		6,712	31.0		6,712	31.0	
	Others	85	0.5		105	0.5		217	1.0		279	1.2		378	1.6		402	1.8		402	1.8	

centages of the total population. This condition is true for each county in the area. The importance of native whites of native parents has increased in each one of the nine counties and the importance of the Negro has decreased in all nine of them. The importance of all other groups has increased in seven of the nine counties. The two counties in which natives of foreign or mixed parentage and the foreign born have decreased (relatively) are Kent and Cecil.

For the two major groups, the trend in terms of numbers rather than percentages will be presented. On this basis, the native whites of native parentage have changed from 97,391 in 1870 to 134,770 in 1930, and the Negroes have declined from 53,867 in 1870 to 50,434 in 1930. Thus while the native white of native parentage was increasing 38.4% in the sixty-year period, the Negro showed a decline of 6.0%. The Negro population by decades was:

1870	53,867
1880	59,613
1890	58,813
1900	61,038
1910	59,084
1920	55,157
1930	50,434

TABLE VI B

CHANGES IN THE POPULATION COMPOSITION OF EASTERN SHORE COUNTIES
BY RACIAL AND NATIVITY GROUPS BETWEEN 1870 AND 1930

<i>County</i>	<i>Native White</i> ²⁷		<i>Negro</i>		<i>Others</i>	
	% 1870	% 1930	% 1870	% 1930	% 1870	% 1930
Caroline	66.8	71.2	31.0	21.1	2.0	7.6
Cecil	70.8	80.0	15.5	10.0	13.6	9.9
Dorchester	60.7	67.1	38.8	29.2	0.4	3.7
Kent	49.4	64.1	45.2	31.1	5.3	4.7
Queen Anne's	56.8	66.5	40.7	30.0	2.3	3.4
Somerset	59.0	63.3	39.9	34.6	0.9	1.7
Talbot	55.7	62.9	41.3	31.9	3.0	5.2
Wicomico	71.4	76.3	27.8	21.6	0.6	2.0
Worcester	63.7	67.1	35.7	31.0	0.5	1.8
Entire "Shore"	61.9	69.6	34.2	26.0	3.8	4.4

It seems that the Negro population showed a decided increase from 1870 to 1880. From 1880 for thirty years the number of Negroes remained fairly constant. From 1910 to 1930 the Negroes lost nearly nine thousand of their fifty-nine thousand. In the ten years between 1920 and 1930 every county except Wicomico showed a decline in Negro population (Wicomico showed an increase of 343 or 5.3%). In the period 1910-1920, seven of the nine counties showed a shrinkage of Negro population (Wicomico and Worcester both showed gains of less than 3%). For the period between 1870 and 1930 as a whole the five upper counties showed a loss in number of Negroes while the four lower counties showed a gain. The increase in relative importance of the native white of native white parentage over the Negro is accounted for in the lower four

counties by a more rapid increase of native whites while in the upper five counties the increase of the native white is aided by a decrease in the number of Negroes. As is to be expected the five upper counties show a much greater relative increase in the importance of the native born whites of native parentage than do the four lower counties. The increase for the upper counties averages 9.0, while the average for the lower counties is 4.9 (increase in per cent of population which is native born of native parentage).

The behavior of the Negro population of the area follows the pattern of rural migrations to the industrial centers. The saturation point for Negro labor on the Eastern Shore apparently was reached in 1880 and from that time for thirty years the surplus of Negro births over Negro deaths, like the white surplus, was drained off by migrations from the area. The total Negro population began its rapid decline between 1910 and 1920 in the war period which saw a mass of unskilled rural labor attracted to the city industries. In 1921 the restriction on European immigration continued the increased demand for unskilled industrial labor from the rural sections of the United States. It is significant that the upper counties, those in closest contact with Baltimore, Philadelphia, Chester, and other industrial centers, show a heavier loss of Negro population than do the lower counties. In fact, even between 1930 and 1940, one of the lower counties showed an increase in Negro population. In recent years another factor, a farm enclosure movement, has decreased the demand for tenant farmers. Later the decrease in employment in the water pursuits will be noted.

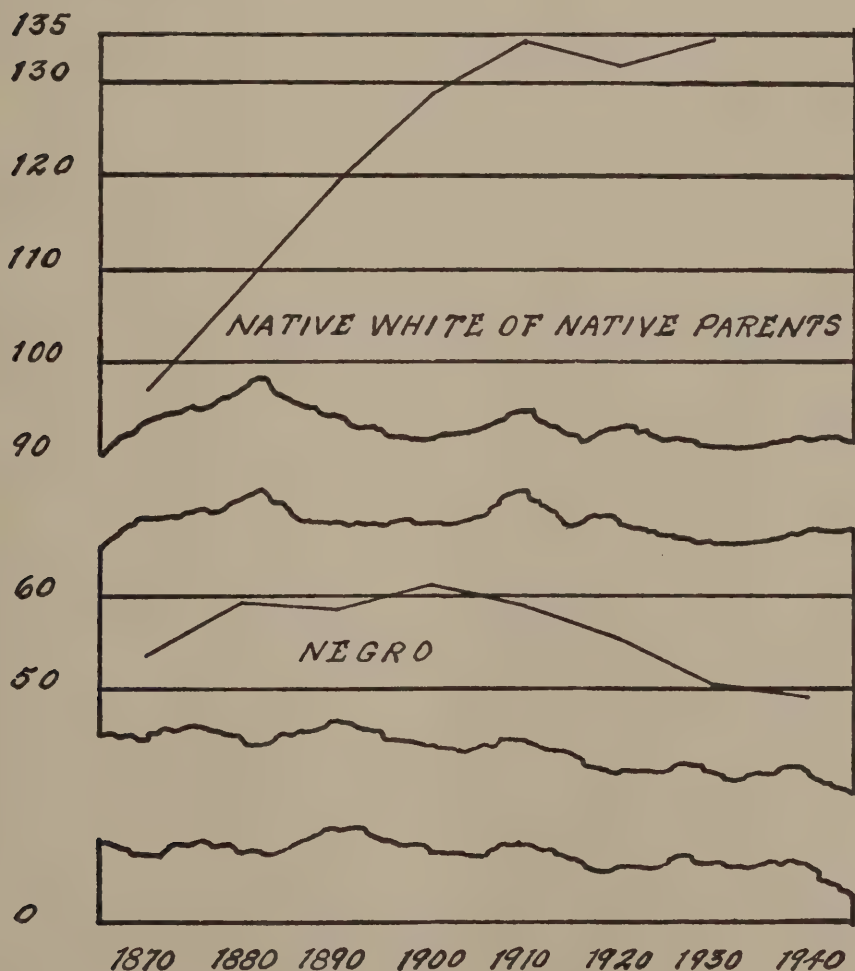
The Negro migration has been, in proportion, far greater than the white migration. This is to be expected, since in a culture of hereditary estates, and where business and the professions are dominated by the whites the Negroes have less of a stake than do the whites. The Negro in such a culture is marginal, and "hard times," like the most recent agricultural depression, will eliminate him in higher ratio than the whites. This probably accounts for the continued decrease of the Eastern Shore's Negro population from 1930 to 1940 which is noted below.

In the arithmetic Graph IV and the logarithmic Graph V, the actual numbers of Negroes and native born whites of native parentage have been used. Looking first at the arithmetic curve, a decided increase in the white group from 1870 to 1910, a slight drop in the next ten years with a recovery to the level of 1910 by the time of the 1930 Census, is shown. The Negro group shows a wavering rise of slight proportions until 1900 but has declined in every ten-year period for the 30 years before 1930. On the logarithmic curve the white group shows a fairly consistent rate of increase from 1870 to 1910 and relative stability since 1910. The line for the Negroes on this scale shows an increase (rate of increase) comparable with that of the white rate from 1870 to 1880. From 1880 to 1890 there was a slight decrease followed by an equally slight increase in the next ten years. Since 1900 the Negroes show a steady decrease for the first twenty years and a sharp decrease from 1920 to 1930. It is clear that the number of Negroes in the 1930 population was less than the number in the population in 1870.

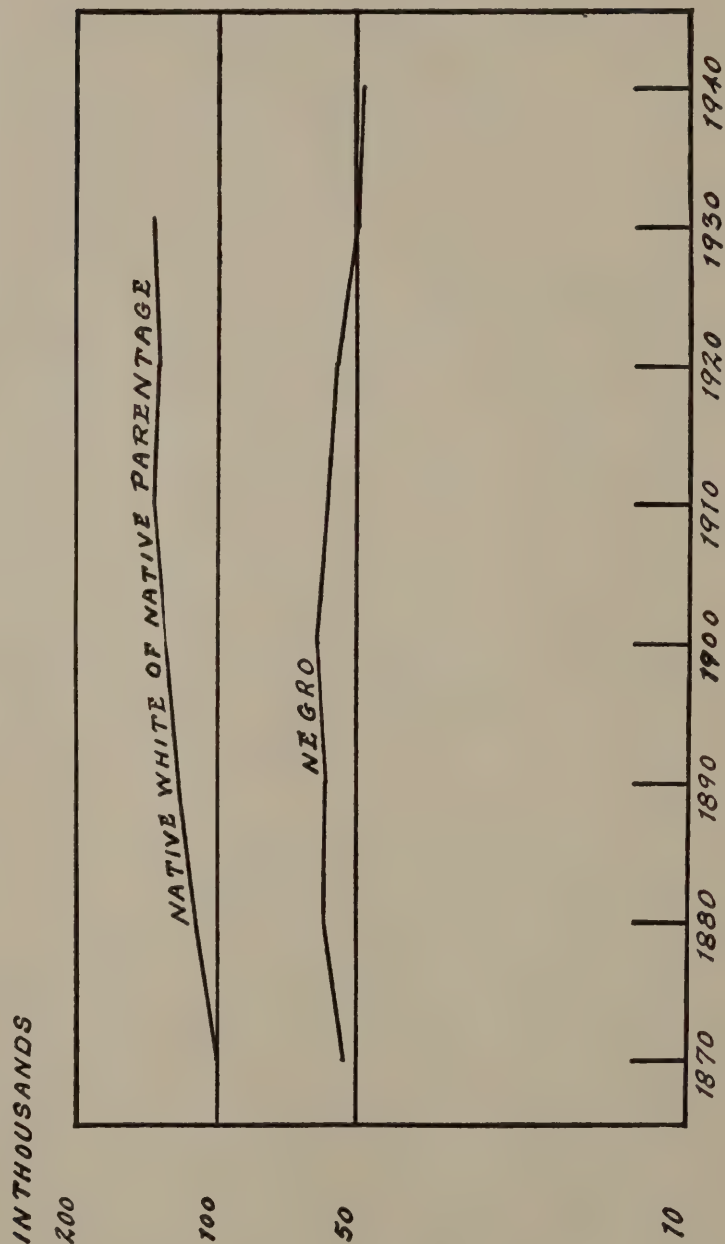
In 1940 the population of the Eastern Shore was 73.6% native-born white and 25.2% Negro. The foreign-born constituted only 1.2% of the total and "others" numbered only forty-five which was too few to permit the calculation of a percentage in the first decimal place. The native-born white group is not reported in a way that permits the determination of the birthplace of the parents.

GRAPH IV
POPULATION CHANGE
EASTERN SHORE
1870 - 1940

IN THOUSANDS



GRAPH V
RATE OF POPULATION CHANGE
1870 - 1940



In 1940 there were 49,217 Negroes in the area. This group had continued its decline both in number and in relative importance. The loss was 1,217 (from 50,434 in 1930 to 49,217 in 1940). All the counties except Wicomico showed a decline in the number of Negroes. Somerset had the largest loss, 1,050, and Wicomico's increase was 727.

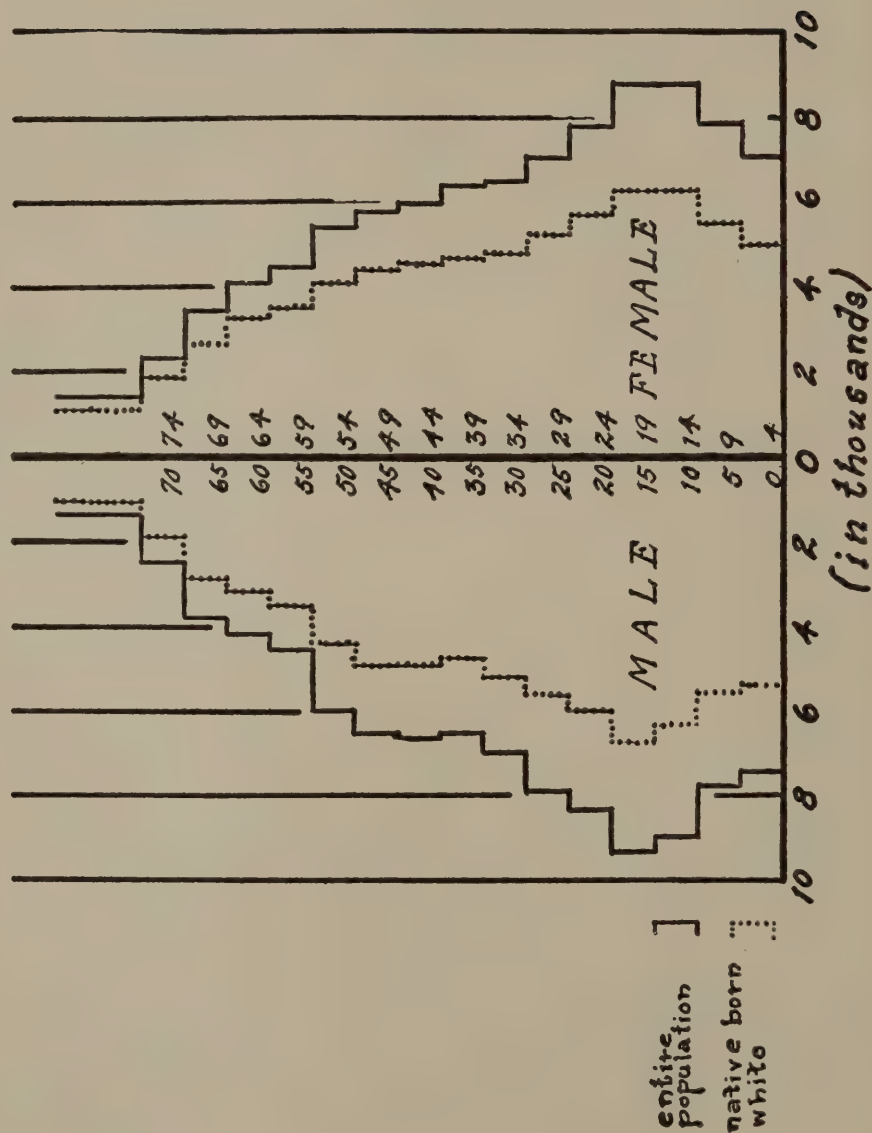
The foreign-born, as in each census since 1860, constitutes between 1.1% and 1.3% of the population. In fact, there is nothing in the 1940 Census to change the trends from 1870 to 1930 which have been studied in some detail above. The area is still composed (98.8%) of native born whites and Negroes.

The implications of such a population composition for social and personal organization and adjustment are too clear to require detailed exposition. The population is relatively homogeneous and racial factors, as a cause of disorganization, are at a minimum. The native white group and the Negroes have had several generations to achieve their adjustments. Foreign-born and "others" are too few to be a disturbing factor.

Students, by nature, long for an accurate measurement of the degree or amount of racial antagonism in a situation or an area. Lynchings, sporadic phenomena, have been studied a great deal, but it is doubtful if their frequency measures much more than the socio-cultural definition of a situation. "Further, the movement of Negro population cannot be correlated with lynching, for counties which have permitted atrocious lynchings have been known to have increases in colored population soon thereafter."²⁸ Thus, migration from an area would not serve as an index. Where racial antagonism becomes organized, as in the Ku Klux Klan, possibly the changes in membership would serve as a measure of varying degrees of racial feelings in the majority group. Unfortunately, accurate membership figures of such an organization are difficult to secure. Again, whether feelings and attitudes will crystallize into this type of behavior is a matter of social definition. The Ku Klux Klan has not been of any sufficient importance on the Eastern Shore in the past decades to justify any extended consideration of it. Dr. William R. Howell states, "The Ku Klux Klan never existed here until about twenty-five years ago and after that its organization soon disintegrated." Several sources consulted agree in this, but some point out that the efforts to organize the Klan were more successful in the lower part of the Shore than in the upper part. The reader will recall that Negro population migrated from the upper portion of the area, thus relieving any pressure, before the migrations from the lower Shore began. Where mob violence has occurred, the mobs have not been masked nor was any attempt to conceal identity made. The lack of any need of concealing identity would render the Klan regalia non-essential.

The behavior patterns in an organization with robes and hoods which are used on many occasions other than those of actual "night riding" or violence are different from those of an unorganized mob which dispels itself without leaving any remnant of organization. Mobs, when they occur on the Eastern Shore, are of the latter type. They have, on occasion, been used to eliminate "undesirable" whites, such as labor organizers, as well as Negroes. The opposition on the Shore is not sufficient to deter such actions. Interference from the outside increases the area consciousness of the natives and lessens what opposition there was within the area toward the mob. When the National Recovery Act was in its full swing and the big N. R. A. signs were displayed nearly everywhere, the Governor of Maryland dispatched the state militia into the lower Shore to prevent mob violence. Albert C. Ritchie was the governor. The resentment against him ran

GRAPH VI
POPULATION TRIANGLE EASTERN SHORE
1940



high and all the Eastern Shoremen said the N. R. A. signs meant "Never Ritchie Again." On many autos appeared signs, "An Eastern Shoreman And Proud Of It."

In the brief discussion of racial conflict above, sight should not be lost of the fact that the Shoremen of the majority group do not feel there is a racial problem. Adjustments by the whites to the Negroes have been made on a great number of the levels permitted by a caste system much less rigid than that found in the deep south. Many other factors besides race cut across these adjustments in any individual case.

AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION

On the preceding page is shown the population triangle for the Eastern Shore. This shows, relatively, a normal distribution of people by age and sex. It is interesting to note that the declining birth rate has made the age group "Under 5" smaller than the age groups above. The writer knows, at this time, no reason for the abnormally large age group "35-39." The significant note in the distribution is its approach to "normal."

NOTES, CHAPTER XXIX

1. A chapter of Dr. Goodwin's *A Story of Personal and Social Organization: An Explorative Survey of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*. Slight changes have been made with Dr. Goodwin's permission to bring the information up to date.

2. Edward B. Reuter: *Population Problems*, second edition, revised (Lippincott, New York, 1937), pp. 14 f.

3. Edward A. Ross: *New-Age Sociology* (D. Appleton-Century, New York, 1940), see Chapters I-V.

4. Dwight Sanderson: *Rural Sociology and Rural Social Organization* (John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1942).

5. All population statistics are taken from publications of the United States Bureau of the Census unless otherwise indicated. Estimated population figures for 1947 were prepared by the Bureau of Vital Statistics, Maryland State Department of Health, January 21, 1948. See *Maryland Manual*, 1948-49, p. 433.

6. Due in part to change in area of counties on basis of new surveys.

7. Area as a unit; not an average of the nine counties.

8. See Dwight Sanderson: *op. cit.*, p. 57.

9. George T. Renner, "Area Analysis Delmarva Area," *Preliminary Report*, National Resources Planning Board, Washington, 1942, pp. 5 ff.

10. "Optimum" for the type of economy prevalent?

11. Charles J. Truitt: *Historic Salisbury Maryland* (Country Life Press, Garden City, New York, 1932), p. xiii.

12. Data from Bureau of Vital Statistics, Maryland State Department of Health.

13. Data from Bureau of Census publications.

14. George T. Renner: *op. cit.*, pp. 47-48.

15. *Ibid.*, pp. 48-49.

16. The use of "progressively worse" seems to imply acceptance of the idea that feeble-mindedness is inherited.

17. Dwight Sanderson: *op. cit.*, pp. 87 f.

18. Term coined by Graham Wallas.

19. James Ford: *Social Deviation* (Macmillan Company, New York, 1939), p. 13 f.

20. 1930 figures used since for the native white, nativity of parents is shown.

21. Truitt, *Historic Salisbury Maryland*, p. 10.

22. "Politics in Maryland During the Civil War," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, vol. XXXVI, No. 3, September, 1941, p. 243.

23. Author and Professor of Economics and Sociology at Washington College, Chestertown, Maryland.

24. Donald Young: *American Minority Peoples* (Harper and Brothers, New York, 1932), p. 187.
25. *Ibid.*, p. 586.
26. E. Clarke Fontaine: an unpublished survey.
27. Native white of native parentage.
28. Donald Young: *op. cit.*, p. 48.

CHAPTER XXX

Religion

*By John Sylvester Smith**

The religious tolerance for which America was to become famous was conceived in the Old World but it was born in Maryland. The second Lord Baltimore had admonished his Catholic and Protestant colonists to be careful not to offend each other in matters of religion as they departed for the new land, a warning they were to observe as well on the sea as they traveled.¹ So that, although the Province of Maryland was founded in 1634, the foundations of religious tolerance go back even further.

George Calvert, the first Lord Baltimore, had been born of Church of England parents, but was converted to the Roman Catholic Church while in the service of James I. On a journey in 1629 to the southern mainland of North America, George Calvert was impressed with and requested the King for the territory now known as Maryland. Among other motives, but by no means the least, was Calvert's desire to provide a sanctuary for Roman Catholic friends where they could practice their religious ceremonies without interference. George Calvert died before his ambition was realized, but his son, Cecilius Calvert, received a generous grant of outright ownership of the Province from King Charles in 1632.² Cecilius, the second Lord Baltimore, recognized that he held this fine gift of Charter under a Protestant government, hence his admonitions of religious tolerance to the colonists.

Bernard C. Steiner says:

The history of religion among the inhabitants of Maryland . . . began most inauspiciously with Henry Pincke, "Reader of Prayers," who was brought by William Claiborne in August, 1631 to the fur trading factory which he then established on Kent Island, near Bloody Point. There were 30 or 40 men in the settlement, but they gained little good from Pincke, for he "broke his leg and was unserviceable."³

The Rev. Richard James was then brought to the "Isle of Kent" from Hampton, Virginia, and according to Skirven, "conducted there the first service of the Church of England said to have been held in the territory now lying within the borders of Maryland."⁴ Thus, in 1631, probably in a fort that had been built on the extreme southern end of the island as a protection against the Indians, the "first regular planting" of the Church of England took place on Maryland soil.

* Head of the Department of Philosophy and Religion, Washington College. B.S. in Ed. and S.T.B. (Temple University); A.M. and Ph.D. (Drew University); postdoctoral study (Columbia University). Clerical member, New York East Conference of the Methodist Church.

An important beginning was made also by the Roman Catholics, who, sailing with probably a majority of Protestants aboard the *Ark* and the *Dove*, left England in November, 1633, under Leonard, brother of Cecilius Calvert, and two Jesuit priests, Andrew White and John Altham, with instructions from Lord Baltimore to "preserve unity and peace. . . ." and to conduct the ceremonies of the Roman Catholic religion as "privately" as possible.⁵ At the mouth of the Potomac River on March 3, 1634

they took "solemn possession of the country for our Saviour and for our Sovereign Lord, the King of England." Then they erected a cross and celebrated mass beside it. An Indian village was soon bought by the colonists and the Jesuits took possession of an Indian cabin, oval in form, 20 feet long and 9 or 11 feet high—which wigwam was the first church building in Maryland.⁶

By 1638 there were five Jesuit priests at work.

In 1639 the first statute of the Province was passed and it provided, as interpreted, for recognition of the rights and liberties of religious groups.⁷ In 1649 the Maryland Act of Religious Toleration was passed.⁸

The Calvert government was quick to offer asylum to persecuted sects. Several hundred Puritans, Presbyterians or Independents who found harsh treatment in Virginia were welcomed to Maryland by Lord Baltimore.

From the very beginning, until the Puritan revolution, all religions were on an equal plane, each denomination providing for the support of its worship as it saw fit. The separation of church and state was an accomplished fact.

Protestant clergy were slow to arrive, none being in the Province even by 1642. The settlers were true to their faith, however, and built a Protestant chapel although they had no preacher. When Thomas Gerard carried off its key, he was fined and directions were given that this revenue was to be used "towards maintaining the first minister that should arrive."⁹

Many were influenced by George Fox, founder of the Quaker movement, so named because he had told his followers to "quake" in fear of God. Fox had held meetings on the Eastern Shore in Talbot County for several days and visited the Cliffs of Calvert and the banks of the Choptank, preaching both to white settlers and to the aborigines.¹⁰ It was only in Maryland, in the 1660s that the religious worship of the Friends could be held publicly and without interruption. In this Province the Friends were hailed as brothers; in other states, the pillory and whipping post awaited them. Fox had begun to preach in England about 1650 that it was wrong to make war even in self-defense; he also opposed taxation for the support of one church. The movement was driven out of England and after 1672, Meeting Houses were erected near Easton, Maryland, and along the creeks—Wye in Talbot, Little Choptank in Dorchester, Island in Kent, Leonard in Calvert. The records of this movement on the Eastern Shore are kept from 1676. The movement was marked by a tremendous missionary zeal, and for a while the Friends were involved in difficulties because of their rejection of oaths and refusal to perform military duty. However, at a later period they were relieved from these trammels.¹¹

The first settlement or community of English Presbyterians recorded in America was that in the county of Somerset; the first church was established at Rehoboth on the banks of the Pocomoke. The churches at Snow Hill and Pitts Creek (Pocomoke City) also date from this early period in American Presby-

terian history. The denomination spread up the eastern (but not the western) side of the Peninsula. The leader of the movement on the Eastern Shore was the Rev. Frances Makemie who came to this country from England in response to an invitation in 1680 from the English Presbyterians who had settled on the lower part of the Peninsula. He is said to be the first regularly ordained minister in America. The Presbyterians, in memory of Rev. Mr. Makemie, called the part



(Photos by Perry-Pix, Salisbury)

Makemie Presbyterian Church

of the Eastern Shore with which he associated himself "Makemieland."¹² The Presbyterian followers at Rehoboth, Snow Hill and Pitts Creek constituted the first regularly organized Presbyterian congregations in America. Makemie became the leading spirit in the organization of the First Presbytery in America, constituted in Philadelphia in 1706, and he became its first Moderator.¹³

By this time, Presbyterianism had prospered in the Province. In 1697 Governor Nicholson reported that Somerset County had no "Papist priest, lay brothers or any of their chapels, and no Quakers," and that the Presbyterians had at least three established places of worship.¹⁴

The population in the colony was so thinly scattered, transportation so difficult, and denominations so numerous that the support of the ministry and maintaining of regular places of worship had to be established slowly.¹⁵ Lord Baltimore did nothing to support religions other than his own at this time, and, in fact, in 1690 was charged with erecting chapels "for the papish superstition to the encouragement of popery and subversion of the Protestant religion."¹⁶

In May of 1692, the Episcopal Church was established in Maryland, on the Eastern Shore. Each county was divided into parishes and taxes were levied upon the people without distinction for the support of the ministers and the building of new churches as well as for maintenance of the parishes generally. This was the first instance in Maryland of a church establishment sustained by law and fed by general taxation.¹⁷ The first act for the establishment of the Anglican Church on this basis, an accomplishment of a Royal Governor, by means of Provincial Statute in 1692, was vetoed by the Crown. Steiner says "Additional acts were several times passed and, finally, one passed in 1700 received approval in England. The dissenting Protestants appear to have suffered nothing during the period of the establishment, except that they were taxed for its maintenance."¹⁸ Maryland was considered to be under the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Bishop of London. The parishioners were given no voice in the selection of the clergy. In December of 1776, the Anglican Church was disestablished by the first Constitution of the State, and that document, which declares the right of full religious liberty to all Christians, also enacted these three provisions which have been reaffirmed in later revisions of the State Constitution, viz. "that no clergyman may sit in the General Assembly, that no gift or devise of property to take effect after death is valid without legislative consent, and that a religious ceremony is necessary for marriage."¹⁹

Until the Anglican Church was disestablished, however, the lot of the Roman Catholic was very difficult. Steiner points this out:

In 1704, the baptism of children, or saying of mass by a "Popish priest" was made a crime. In 1718, they were disfranchised, probably because of supposed Jacobite sympathies. In 1740, they were obliged to pay a double tax. They were also compelled to meet for worship in private houses, a fact which led to the erection of a wing to the Doughoregan Manor House which is still used as a parish church. Finally, the order of Jesuits, to which the priests in Maryland belonged, was dissolved in 1772 by the Pope.²⁰

It is interesting that although the Calverts were Catholics themselves, the Roman Church was established in Maryland by a somewhat difficult process. It was towards the end of the colonial period, while restrictions were a little relaxed toward Catholics that in 1769 they built their first Church on the lower Eastern Shore; it was called St. Mary's—Star of the Sea.²¹ In fact, the first settlers coming to Dorchester in colonial days were Catholics, and their first chapel of 1769, built on what is now known as Hooper's Island, was replaced in 1872 by a more modern building erected a short distance from the site of the old Church. These primitive settlers of Dorchester came from St. Mary's County about the year 1660. However, most of the people who settled on the Eastern Shore both before and after Dorchester County was laid out were Protestants, a fact shown conclusively by the official acts of the Assembly Delegates and other representative officers of colonial days.²²

During the Revolution, the rectors, whose oath as clergymen bound them to be loyal and bear true allegiance to the government of England, had either to vacate their churches in order to return to their native England, or take the oath required to become loyal citizens of Maryland. Small, rural churches especially were left without pastoral leadership and the tendency of the people was to neglect their religious duties and many of the church properties fell into ruin and decay. Thus, all religious denominations felt the impact of the colonial

struggle. However, the Roman Catholics, as a group, were quite patriotic during the Revolution, Charles, John and Daniel Carroll being most conspicuous. Steiner points out that "at the close of the Revolutionary War, 16,000 Catholics were estimated to live in Maryland, 700 in Pennsylvania, 1500 in New York, and less than 500 in all the other states." Thus, he says, "the logic of numbers pointed to



(Photos by Perry-Pix, Salisbury)

Old Green Hill Episcopal Church, Near Salisbury

Maryland as the centre of the Roman Catholic Church and the Rev. John Carroll, an ex-Jesuit of high character was consecrated in England as Bishop of Baltimore in 1789.²³ Later, immigration increased the number of Catholics in the State, particularly around Baltimore. To this day, Roman Catholicism is stronger on the western than on the eastern shore of the State.

When the Anglican Church was disestablished, an attempt was made to have the State support the churches of all religious faiths, but this failed, and in 1779 the Vestry Act was passed, restoring to local vestries the properties of the former State Church. The Anglican Church was thus the richest, in terms of property (although some of it was in very poor condition), among all the denominations. However, as a whole, their clergy lagged in spirit, and just at the

time the Methodist movement began to become a factor in the history of the Eastern Shore. A number of Methodists appeared in Cecil County in the five years before the Revolution, but at the time the Presbyterians were strongest in this section, and Quakerism had its strength principally in the neighborhood of "Third Haven," near Easton.²⁴ The Anglican Church had suffered much during the Revolution since it was impossible to obtain ordination for her clergy, a condition common throughout the country. Because of the severance of the organization of the Church of England and the scattered American parishes, due to the war, the Rev. Dr. William Smith, formerly President of the University of Pennsylvania, had left Philadelphia when the British occupied that city, and had come, as an ardent patriot, to Chestertown, to take charge of the parish church and its outlying points. Smith also became principal of the Kent County School which he developed into Washington College, securing for it a charter under that name in 1782, with the help and interest of George Washington and with permission to use his name for the school.

Dr. Smith called a convention of the Maryland parishes to meet at the College, the purpose of the conference being that of finding a means of reviving the church and overcoming the problem of securing ordination. Of the five other clergymen of the former Established Church left in the State, only two responded. Later, a second and larger meeting under his leadership took place in the Chester Parish Church, now the Emmanuel Protestant Episcopal Church of Chestertown. At this historic meeting there was adopted the designation "The Protestant Episcopal Church," which the denomination still bears.

The Episcopalians desired to have Dr. Smith sent to England to be consecrated the first Protestant Episcopal Bishop of Maryland, but he returned to Philadelphia to head the University of Pennsylvania once more, conditions having settled in that city by 1789, the same year in which, incidentally, the Book of Common Prayer as now used was ratified and adopted by a convention of that Church.²⁵ In 1792 the Rev. Thomas John Claggett was chosen the First Protestant Episcopal Bishop of Maryland.²⁶ It was a matter of administrative convenience rather than sectional prejudice which led to the forming of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Easton in 1869.

A small and independent religious sect who called themselves the Nicolites, being led by Joseph Nicol, were in existence in the eighteenth century on the Eastern Shore in Caroline County. Little is known of them and their Meeting House near Denton came into the possession of the Friends early in the nineteenth century or perhaps very late in the eighteenth. Since known as the Neck Meeting House, it is located on the upper verge of Tuckahoe Neck. This was the last of perhaps three places of worship once owned by the Nicolites.²⁷

Under the laws of sect enacted during the reigns of William and Mary and Queen Anne, Protestantism had grown stronger and the Catholics made but little advancement during the period. The sheriffs were required by an Act of Assembly in 1706 to enumerate all Catholics in their respective counties and only 79 were reported at that time in Dorchester County. In 1902 there were only 500 Catholics in that county, the progress of Catholicism being much slower on the Eastern Shore than elsewhere in Maryland, as previously noted.²⁸

At the time of the Revolution, tidal waves of Methodism passed over the Eastern Shore. The struggle for independence and individuality found expression for many in the new movement of Wesleyan societies. The Episcopal Church was not supplied with clergy. The appointment of Dr. Thomas Coke as Superin-

tendent resulted in applications to Mr. Wesley of England for clergy.²⁹ The Methodist movement prospered, however, by a system of "societies" which were founded and kept alive by an itinerant ministry. About 1770 Asbury and Wright took their departure from Philadelphia for "mission fields," the former heading north and the latter south. Wright spent most of the winter at Bohemia Manor in Maryland, where Whitefield had preached often. There, the chief families, the Bayards and the Bouchells, were ardent disciples. Solomon Hersey, who lived below the present Bohemia Mills, was the first available friend of Methodism in this area. Methodist services were held at his home. The first Methodist preaching on the Eastern Shore of Maryland is commonly regarded to have occurred in Kent County; evidence leads us to believe that the first Society on this shore was formed at Hersey's in 1772. This Society is still represented at the Manor Chapel. The old log Chapel which was called Bethesda and which fell into decay, was built between 1780 and 1790.³⁰

The oldest deed of record for Methodist Episcopal Church land in Dorchester County is dated September 15, 1787. The consideration was twenty shillings for one-half acre of land.³¹

While Methodism grew rapidly on the Eastern Shore from the period of the Revolution, it was in the face of certain opposition, and perhaps it was strengthened by opposition. The war had spread doubt and distrust everywhere. The fact that so many Anglican Church clergy returned to England threw suspicion upon the Anglo-American Methodist preachers. After all, the leader of Methodism was in England, and was thought to be loyal to the King and unfriendly to the American political movement, and all Methodists in the colonies were regarded as somewhat politically dangerous people. The Methodists were disinclined to the support of war and this general principle of theirs occasioned considerable suspicion of their loyalty to or interest in the American Revolution. Methodist preachers traveled during this period at the risk of their personal safety. Cooper, writing on Asbury, cites a complaint of the rather common practice of fining and imprisoning Methodist preachers in Maryland "for no other offense than traveling and preaching the Gospel."³²

This persecution, which continued for some time, the Methodists used to advantage, or at least, so it worked out. The Rev. Mr. Hartley, shut up in jail in 1779, in Easton, preached through the prison bars to those who came to his window, many gathering out of curiosity. Thus, a Methodist Society was formed there, and Hartley was released, the authorities "fearing he would convert the whole town and country."³³

The Rev. Freeborn Garretson's labors in Dorchester County, in the face of opposition and persecution, were responsible for the establishment of Methodist work at Cambridge; his illustrious successor in the work was Mr. Caleb Pedicord, in 1780, and Garretson moved on with "much liberty" to preach "to our persecuted friends in Queen Anne."³⁴

Francis Asbury was the able organizer of much of the Methodist movement in America. Barrett's Chapel is one of the oldest Methodist places of worship. It was Asbury who founded the first Methodist college in 1785. It is said that Asbury traveled some 270,000 miles, preached 16,000 sermons and ordained 4,000 ministers.³⁵

At the beginning of the nineteenth century there was a strong religious element in Pocomoke City, then known as Newton. The enthusiastic townspeople had long been supporters of Methodism and as long ago as 1805, it is recorded

that the famous traveling preacher, Lorenzo Dow, addressed two thousand persons at Newton. It was there, it is said, that Dow, on his way to a church meeting, noticed a little colored boy carrying a tin horn. Dow employed the boy to climb an elm in the church yard and to remain absolutely still until that part of the sermon where Mr. Dow would exclaim, "Blow, Gabriel!" At this juncture, the boy was to put full force on the horn. During a "fierce" sermon on the subject of the resurrection and the Day of Judgment, Mr. Dow finally reached his climax.



(Photos by Perry-Pix, Salisbury)

Baptist Temple, Crisfield, Founded by the Late Charles D. Briddell

He described the Angel Gabriel as standing with one foot on the sea and one on the land, his long silver trumpet in his hand. "Blow, Gabriel," shouted Mr. Dow, and was instantly obeyed.

An indescribable scene followed; the congregation fell on the ground, crying for mercy or shouting salvation; the horses added to the uproar by squealing and stamping. Presently the boy was discovered in the tree and the shamed sinners looked at Mr. Dow threateningly. He was equal to the occasion.

"If a little boy can strike such terror into your hearts," he shouted, "what will you do when the great day really comes?"⁸⁶

Joshua Thomas, the "Parson of the Islands" in his times, was largely responsible for the establishment of Methodism as the deep-rooted faith of the lower

Chesapeake Bay people. He preached to the British expeditionary force encamped on Tangier Island, in Virginia, across from the Maryland line, during the War of 1812. At this time, Thomas predicted bravely that they would not succeed in taking Baltimore.³⁷

Thomas preached also at nearby Crisfield and at Devil's Island which, when its inhabitants became converted, they renamed Deal's Island. While here, Thomas had a canoe built which he named the *Methodist* and which he used for missionary jaunts up the rivers. Thomas was known as the "shouting preacher;" he regarded emotional exclamation as a means of grace. "I shout myself happy," he is supposed to have said. He accompanied all his trading with prayer and was famous for his home-spun embellishment of the wedding ceremony.³⁸

Joshua Thomas' Deal's Island camp meeting ground became the famous Methodist meeting place for the whole Eastern Shore. The grounds were laid out so that at the highest point was the preacher's stand and it was surrounded by five circles of permanent "tents" built of clapboards and shingled. "Fire stands," small platforms erected on stands of tall posts covered with mud and sand, on which fires were kept burning at night, were used to light the proceedings after dark.³⁹

Thomas died at the age of seventy-seven. In accordance with his wish, he was buried at the door of his church, "where he could hear the preached Gospel Sunday after Sunday and the happy shouts of the Christians." On his grave stone near the south front corner of the old Methodist Church at Deal's Island is this epitaph:

Come all my friends as you pass by,
Behold the place where I do lie,
Once as you are, so once was I,
Remember, you are born to die.⁴⁰

It was in Maryland, although at Baltimore, and not on the Eastern Shore, that the Methodist Episcopal Church was officially founded, at the famous "Christmas Conference" of 1784.⁴¹

Today, however, the Peninsula of the Eastern Shore is called the cradle of Methodism in the United States. A recently published chronicle of Methodist churches on the Shore refers to the area as "the garden of Methodism."⁴²

Thus, the history of the Eastern Shore, reveals that a succession of events made most of the Peninsula in its early colonial period the peculiar home of many religious denominations. It has been a stronghold of Quakerism and of Methodism and of Presbyterianism; it has been the birthplace of the Protestant Episcopal Church. It has also been the home of the Roman Catholics. Smaller sects which did not survive had also found refuge here, such as the Nicolites. In this connection, mention might be made also of the Labadists, a Calvinist movement designed "to awaken in the believer, devoutness of spirit by enjoining austerities of life, abnegation of the flesh and renunciation of the world." This movement, which "warmed the head" and "cooled the heart," was headed in Maryland by Augustine Herrman, its founder, who lived at Bohemia Manor. It is a group which dates back to 1679.⁴³

Protestantism made its greatest advance on the Peninsula after Catholicism and Episcopalianism were established. What Thomas Bacon, who was said to be the most scholarly of Maryland clergymen, wrote in 1750, may be taken to be

somewhat characteristic of at least some history of religion on the Eastern Shore: "Religion among us seems to wear the face of the country, part moderately cultivated, the greater part wild and savage."⁴⁴

Many beautiful and tradition-steeped churches remain standing on the Shore today. St. Francis Xavier's Church near Warwick is one of the very early Roman



(Photos by Perry-Pix, Salisbury)

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Princess Anne

Catholic places of worship in Cecil County. It was erected by the Jesuits. In the school connected with this church, the first Roman Catholic bishop in Maryland, John Carroll, was educated. Bishop Carroll was later the founder of Georgetown College in the District of Columbia.⁴⁵

A few miles to the north of the Sassafras River stands St. Stephan's Church in the southern part of Cecil County. This is one of the thirty parishes laid out in 1692, embraced what was then known as North Sassafras, Bohemia and Elk hundreds, and was called North Sassafras Parish. In 1706, the parish name was changed to St. Stephan's; the present church was erected in 1873.⁴⁶

The ruins of an old Quaker Meeting House, built around 1690, still stand in Kent County, near Lynch.⁴⁷

St. Paul's Church, near Chestertown, is a monument to the zeal of the colonial settlers of Kent County of more than 200 years ago. St. Paul's Parish was organized in 1692, but as early as perhaps 1650, there was a church at Church Creek in Kent County, two miles from the Chester River, near the town of New Yarmouth called St. Peter's. St. Paul's was also one of the thirty original parishes laid out in the Province of Maryland by the Act of Assembly in 1692, and with the Shrewsbury Parish, covered much of the territory now within the bounds of Kent County.⁴⁸

One of the oldest Protestant Episcopal churches on the Eastern Shore is "Old Trinity," situated on the Little Choptank River at Church Creek in Dorchester County. All records of its date have been lost but it is known to have been standing in the year 1690.⁴⁹

Friends' Meeting House in Talbot County, built in 1648 on what is now the outskirts of Easton, is said to be the oldest building of wooden construction for public worship in the United States.⁵⁰ Also in Talbot County, "Old Wye Church," as it is commonly known, was recently restored by Arthur Amory Houghton, Jr. It was founded in 1694 as "Saint Luke's at Wye Mills, a Chapel of Ease of Saint Paul's Parish" (Old Chester Church).⁵¹

St. Andrew's, the parish church of Somerset Parish, is located at Princess Anne. The ruins of one of the first churches built in the Province, the parish church of Coventry Parish, stand at Rehoboth, on the Pocomoke River, near the old Presbyterian Church built by Makemie.⁵² This old Episcopal Church at Rehoboth was erected in 1735, a splendid edifice. By 1830, however, it was spoken of as a "deserted temple," inhabited by owls and bats. The congregation assembled once a year (in a single pew) so as to retain title.⁵³ The church declined still further and fell into ruins and the walls alone now remain. The annual service was discontinued about 1935. The late Cassius M. Dashiell deserves credit, according to Mr. Chamberlin, for having had the walls capped with a coat of cement to prevent further decay.⁵⁴

Across the road from these ruins is the Rehoboth Presbyterian Church, founded by Makemie, and still attracting members of its congregation from as far away as Crisfield, Marion, Kingston and Pocomoke City. The pastor, the Rev. Hermann Bischoff, has taken keen interest in the preservation of the building. No other church, except at Jamaica, has documentary evidence of its existence at the early date of 1683 from which Rehoboth begins its ascertained history.⁵⁵

Coventry Parish, of which St. Mark's, situated at Kingston, is the only church that is now active and in use, was organized in 1692, and the original church was the Old Rehoboth Church. Later, what were known as "Chapels of Ease" were built for the convenience of the people, since the horse and buggy was the means of transportation. The Chapels of Ease that were erected in Coventry Parish were St. Mary's in Newton (now Pocomoke City) in 1845, St. Mark's at Kingston in 1846, and St. Paul's in Marion in 1848. St. Mark's was separated from Coventry Parish eventually, forming a new parish, as was also the case later with St. Paul's. Thus, St. Mark's is now the only church in Coventry Parish.⁵⁶

St. Martin's Church, near the village of Showell in Worcester County, was the parish church of Worcester Parish for nearly seventy years. This parish was constituted from part of Snow Hill, now All Hallows Parish. The present brick building was erected in 1756, under the patronage of the Queen of England, who presented it with a silver service. In the early days, the vestry of the parish

built Prince George's Chapel at Selbyville. When the Maryland-Delaware Boundary Line was run in 1763, by Mason and Dixon, and relocated to include that part of Worcester County south of the Indian River, it divided Worcester Parish, placing Prince George's in Delaware. At that time the silver service of St. Martin's was divided so that part of it was used in the Episcopal Church at Millsboro, Delaware, which town lies a few miles north of St. Martin's.⁵⁷

All Hallows Church in Snow Hill, Worcester County, stands today a beautiful brick edifice with stained glass windows; the first church built there was erected in 1734.⁵⁸

The Episcopal churches on the Eastern Shore do not number as many as they once did. The original parishes included North Sassafras or Shrewsbury in Cecil County; St. Paul's and Kent Island in Kent County; St. Paul's, St.



*St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal
Church, Berlin*

Michael's and St. Peter's in Talbot County; Great Choptank and Dorchester in Dorchester County, and Somerset, Coventry, Stepney and Snow Hill in Somerset County.⁵⁹

Today there are representatives on the Eastern Shore not only of the major denominations which early found their homes here but also members of the following groups, although in smaller numbers: Lutherans, Hebrews, Church of God, Brethren, Seventh Day Adventists, Christian Scientists and the Salvation Army.⁶⁰

Maryland still holds forth in practice as well as theory the historic principle of religious toleration. Perhaps this is because religion, and not simply the religions, played a part not only in the history of the Eastern Shore but in the establishment of the State itself. So long as the spirit of religion still finds free expression in the daily life of her people, this State, or any state, may rightfully hope to retain an honorable place in a great democracy.

RELIGIOUS GROUPS ON THE EASTERN SHORE OF MARYLAND IN 1936*

COUNTRY	Baptist Bodies			Lutherans			Methodist Bodies**					Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.	Protestant Episcopal Church	Roman Catholic Church	All other bodies
	All Denominations	Southern Baptists	Negro Baptists	Brethren (Conservative Dunkers)	Disciples of Christ	Evangelical and Reformed Church	Jewish Congregations	Synod of Missouri, Ohio and other states	United Lutheran Church in America	Methodist Episcopal Church	Methodist Episcopal Church South	Methodist Protestant Church			
Caroline	4,807	70		208		106		371		1,928	177	528	229	683	507
Cecil	6,383	152	34							2,917		321	1,015	794	526
Dorchester	5,845	76	50			165		67		3,273	141	367	688	450	568
Kent	4,139							106		2,097		734	444	565	193
Queen Anne's	3,802									1,937	271	339	740	298	217
Somerset	5,688	245			58					4,398	135	83	92		318
Talbot	6,094	190		250				103	282	2,651	471	315	937	593	302
Wicomico	9,007	179	85		41		125	57		3,236	955	2,188	181	375	1,170
Worcester	4,825	202	85		45					2,278		1,196	302		193

* Compiled from pages 765, 6, *Religious Bodies: 1936*, Vol. I, prepared under the supervision of T. F. Murphy, Chief Statistician for Religious Bodies, United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. Washington: United States Government Printing Office, 1941.

** These bodies have since been united.

NOTES, CHAPTER XXX

1. Percy G. Skirven, *The First Parishes of the Province of Maryland* (Baltimore: The Norman, Remington Company, 1933), p. 7.
2. Cf. *ibid.*, pp. 3-6.
3. Bernard C. Steiner, "Maryland's Religious History," *Maryland Historical Magazine* (Baltimore: The Maryland Historical Society, March, 1926), XXI, p. 1.
4. Skirven, *op. cit.*, p. 2.
5. *Ibid.*, p. 7.
6. Steiner, *op. cit.*, p. 2.
7. Cf. Steiner, *op. cit.*, p. 3.
8. Cf. Chapter 7, "The Maryland Act of Religious Toleration."
9. Steiner, *op. cit.*, p. 3.
10. Swepson Earle, *The Chesapeake Bay Country* (Baltimore: Thomsen Eiles Co., 1923), p. 71.
11. James McSherry, *History of Maryland* (Baltimore: The Baltimore Book Co., 1904), pp. 70-71.
12. Matthew P. Andrews, *History of Maryland* (New York: Doubleday Doran & Co., 1929), p. 185.
13. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1941), p. 93.
14. Andrews, *op. cit.*, p. 186.
15. Cf. Swepson Earle and Percy G. Skirven, *Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore* (Baltimore: Munder Thomsen Press, 1916), p. 71.
16. Theodore G. Gambrill, *History of Early Maryland* (New York: T. Whittaker, 1893), pp. 126-127.
17. McSherry, *op. cit.*, p. 76.
18. Steiner, *op. cit.*, p. 9.
19. *Ibid.*, p. 10.
20. *Ibid.*
21. W.P.A., *op. cit.*, p. 94.
22. Elias Jones, *History of Dorchester County, Maryland* (Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins Co., 1920), p. 107.
23. Steiner, *op. cit.*, p. 11.
24. Charles A. Barker, *Background of the Revolution in Maryland* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1940), pp. 44-45.
25. Earle, *op. cit.*, pp. 496-497.
26. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 95.
27. Earle, *op. cit.*, pp. 169-170.
28. Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 116.
29. McSherry, *op. cit.*, p. 268.
30. Abel Stevens, *History of the Methodist Episcopal Church* (New York: Carlton & Lanahan, 1864), Vol. I, p. 122.
31. Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 132.
32. John Lednum, *The Rise of Methodism in America* (Philadelphia: The Methodist Book Store, 1862), p. 80.
33. Lednum, *op. cit.*, p. 232.
34. Nathan Bangs, *The Life of the Rev. Freeborn Garrettson* (New York: G. Lane & C. B. Tippet, 1845), p. 66.
35. Cf. Francis H. Tees *et al*, *Pioneering in Penn's Woods* (Philadelphia: The Philadelphia Conference Tract Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 1937), pp. 21-23.
36. Hulbert Footner, *Rivers of the Eastern Shore* (New York: Farrar and Rinehart, Inc., 1944), pp. 78-79.
37. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 430.

38. Footner, *op. cit.*, p. 104.
39. *Ibid.*, p. 105.
40. *Ibid.*, pp. 106-107.
41. Tees *et al.*, p. 24.
42. Cf. E. C. Hallman, *The Garden of Methodism* ("Published at the request of the Peninsula Annual Conference of the Methodist Church," n.p., n.d.).
43. B. Bartlett Jones, *The Labadists Colony in Maryland* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1899), p. 3.
44. Andrews, *op. cit.*, p. 50.
45. Earle, *op. cit.*, p. 95.
46. *Ibid.*, p. 106.
47. *Ibid.*, p. 6.
48. *Ibid.*, p. 15.
49. Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 108.
50. Earle, *op. cit.*, p. 27.
51. Elizabeth Merritt, *Old Wye Church* (Baltimore: The Maryland Historical Society, 1949), p. 1.
52. Earle, *op. cit.*, p. 27.
53. Hermann Bischoff, *Rehoboth by the River* (Princess Anne: Eastern Shore Publishing Company, 1933), p. 14.
54. Robert L. Chamberlin, "The Religious Development of the Eastern Shore of Maryland," (unpublished, in the possession of the History and Political Science Department of Washington College).
55. Bischoff, *op. cit.*, p. 20.
56. Chamberlin, *op. cit.*
57. Earle, *op. cit.*, p. 148.
58. *Ibid.*, p. 145.
59. Chamberlin, *op. cit.*
60. See Table, p. 695, compiled from 1936 Census of Religious Bodies in Maryland.

*Private and Public Elementary and Secondary Education**

There is no reference in the Maryland Charter to education. The first legal mention of education occurs in a law of 1663 which had as its purpose the protection of orphans to whom parents had left estates with provision for their physical needs and education.¹ This act was somewhat strengthened by an Act of 1671 and confirmed by the Assembly in 1676. These made it clear that any educational program followed must not restrict the influence of the church nor ignore the religious aim of education. The first effort to establish a school by law, in this same year, failed largely because of the differences between the Lower House and the proprietor, reflected in this issue as in most others.

The failure of the General Assembly to take additional action to create schools during the early colonial period must not be interpreted to mean that education was unavailable, despite the fact that it was woefully inadequate. In his definitive study of private (independent) secondary education in Maryland, Dr. J. Paul Slaybaugh states that the following types of schools operated in Maryland during this early period, somewhat in the order of their appearance:²

1. *Paternal Instruction*—For children of poorer colonists virtually the only school was the meager knowledge handed down by their untutored parents.
2. "*Home Schools*"—With hired tutors.
3. *Manor Schools*—Also with tutors, but more children were brought together.
4. *Neighborhood Schools*—Parents bound themselves together to build a school house and employ a teacher.
5. *Private Schools*—The master assumed all responsibility and demanded from his patrons a stipulated fee for his services. Such schools often went beyond the elementary level.
6. *Denominational Schools*—Often these were largely the result of the efforts of the rector or pastor of the church supervising the school. The Catholics and Quakers particularly developed these schools.
7. *The Parish Schools*—Varied somewhat, on occasion, from the denominational school, with more local influence.

* For most material in this chapter, except on the public school system the Editor is greatly indebted to Dr. J. Paul Slaybaugh, long-time Headmaster of West Nottingham Academy at Colora, Cecil County, Maryland, and President of the Cecil County Historical Society. Since September, 1949, Dr. Slaybaugh has been Director of Admissions at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri. He has prepared a lengthy and excellent history of *Private (Independent) Secondary Education in Maryland, 1634-1870*, which he proposes to publish. It is unquestionably the most thorough work of this type ever attempted on early Maryland education. It was generously placed at the disposal of the Editor of these volumes.

8. *The County Free Schools*—The first determined effort on the part of the Colony to provide education for its children.

In the Colonial period one of the greatest problems of those desiring to improve the knowledge of youth was securing competent teachers. Pay was low, and the prestige of teachers was beneath that of those pursuing the handicrafts. Many teachers were indentured servants working for their freedom. Others were needy immigrants. Too often the school teacher was the man of inferior physical stamina or of the less active mental qualities. The situation eventually improved, however, and by the middle of the eighteenth century there were many competent and exemplary instructors. Some teachers, as John Stevens of Talbot County, ran afoul of the law. In 1680 he was presented by the grand jury for being drunk on the Sabbath day. He was fined one hundred pounds of tobacco. Isaac Smith, master of the Friends' School at Tuckahoe, fell into "distraction of mind" and during his paroxysms of madness would tear his clothes, commit other distractive acts, and wander off from his home.

The general inadequacy of education brought pressure on colonial officials and in 1694 Governor Nicholson projected a plan for a free school. The Lower House responded favorably and suggested that a school be erected at Severn on the Western Shore and at Oxford on the Eastern Shore.³ But it was not until 1696 that an act was fully agreed upon and passed, providing for a system of county free schools. It included details for every conceivable phase of each school's physical, instructional, financial, and managerial interest and activity. It now seems correct to say that the schools were top heavy and crushed down with legislative rules and regulations. There was virtually no opportunity on the part of the overseers to exercise individual ingenuity. After twenty-five years only one school—King Williams School in Annapolis—was opened.

The Act of 1696 had intended that a "free school" be established in each county, but various factors accounted for the failure of the plan to be carried out: (1) Members of the Church of England were given control of the schools, not a satisfactory arrangement for some of the counties; (2) Although provision was made for financial support, the money was not actually available; (3) General indifference; (4) Lack of teachers and of persons willing to be Visitors; (5) Difficulties of transportation as well as of the alternate solution of providing boarding accommodations. No doubt the real cause for the failure of the law to function was the unwillingness, or disinterestedness, of the visitors to assume any responsibility. The Assembly had apparently mistakenly assumed that the demand for schools also implied a willingness to assume some responsibility for their management.

In 1723, the Assembly rather drastically revised the law of 1696 to confront the counties [on the Eastern Shore—Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, and Talbot] with a greater challenge to set up free schools. The results, while not commensurate with the hopes, were far more satisfactory than the first effort. In due time every county established a school.

Each of the County Free Schools was to be managed by a board of seven visitors, they were required to take . . . [an oath]. The schools were limited in the amount of their possessions to one hundred pounds sterling. The trustees were given full power and authority to manage the schools, including the choosing of their successors, the appointment of masters, ushers and tutors, the making of all necessary laws, orders, rules, etc., for the govern-

ment of the schools, all of which, however, had to conform to the laws and statutes of England, the acts of the province and the canons and constitutions of the Church of England.

The master was required to teach as many gratis scholars as the visitors should order, or be immediately discharged.⁴

These so-called County Free Schools, therefore, offered opportunity to some pupils to attend without charge, but they were attended chiefly by children of well-to-do families who paid tuition. Later on, of course, the phrase "Free School" did come to mean education without tuition cost.

Under the Act of 1723 schools were organized in the counties as follows:

In Cecil County the first Visitors were Colonel John Ward, Major John Dowdall, Colonel Benjamin Pearce, Stephen Knight, Edward Jackson, Richard Thompson, and Thomas Johnson, Jr. This was the only County Board not having an Episcopal rector as a member. The Visitors purchased a hundred acres of land on the south side of the Bohemia River, in Sassafras Neck. It is believed they started a school here, but how long it lasted, who taught it, and who attended it, has not been ascertained.⁵ Visitors continued to be appointed, but it is not known whether they did more than supervise the free school farm. The latter was sold in 1791.

Visitors named for Dorchester County in the Act of 1723 were Rev. Thomas Howell, Colonel Roger Woolford, Major Henry Ennalls, Captain John Rider, Captain Henry Hooper, Captain John Hodson (Hudson) and Mr. Govert Lockerman. The Dorchester school had a spotty existence and in 1788 the Assembly authorized the transfer of title for all school property to the Trustees of the Poor.

The first school in Kent County was founded at Chestertown in 1707 and was under the supervision of the rector of St. Paul's Parish. It was the nucleus which later, in 1723, developed into Kent County Free School. Visitors named in the latter year were Rev. Richard Sewall, Rev. Alexander Williamson, James Harris, Colonel Edward Scott, Simon Wilmer, Gideon Pearce, and Lambert Wilmer. In 1741 the Assembly was petitioned by the Visitors to allow them to divide the school land into lots and lease them. The request was granted. The school had good masters, including Charles Peale, father of Charles Willson Peale, celebrated portrait painter. One of his advertisements reads as follows: "At Kent County School in Chestertown, Maryland, young gentlemen are boarded and taught Greek, and Latin tongue, Writing, Arithmetic, Merchants Accounts, Surveying, Navigation, the use of the globes, by the largest and most accurate pair in America; also any other parts of Mathematics. N.B.—young gentlemen may be instructed in fencing and dancing by very good masters."⁶ The school had its bad years, but was prosperous enough in 1770 to have an assistant to the master and pupils from a distance who boarded in town.⁷ In 1780 Dr. William Smith came to Chestertown as rector and before the year was out he was given charge of the Kent County School. He was so successful in this undertaking that two years later the school had 140 students and he had it incorporated into Washington College. After the founding of the college, the grammar schools of Kent County were carried on as usual. In 1797 the old Kent Free School property was advertised for lease with the suggestion that it would be a "first situation" in town for a tavern.

Over in Queen Anne's County the first Visitors of the County School were Rev. Christopher Wilkenson, Philemon Lloyd, Richard Tilghman, James Earle,

William Turbutt, Augustine Thompson, and Edward Wright. Practically all that is known of this school, which was situated on the road between Queens-town and Chester Mills, has come down to us through the Visitors Book.⁸ The first master was David Davis, who contracted to teach ten scholars for the sum of £20 current money in Maryland. Later on Charles Peale was master, prior to becoming master of the Free School in Kent County. There was a great turn-over among masters as well as difficulty in enforcing attendance regulations for the students (known as "foundation scholars"). Luther Martin became master for one year in 1767. He "paid very little attention to the school for it was during his incumbency that the boys became too free in the use of the gun and fell into bad habits about their pronounciation. He was publicly reprimanded in the presence of the scholars. He remained for about two years, just when and why he left is not known, because the page which would, and possibly did contain this information, is torn in half and part removed from the book. It is said Martin spent most of his time in drinking and finally left the county because his attention to a daughter of a prominent planter was very objectionable. This Martin is Maryland's great lawyer and the one who defended Aaron Burr."⁹

The school was closed during the Revolution and ran into complications afterwards. Finally, in 1791, it became the property of the Alms House of the county.

Visitors appointed in 1723 for the Somerset County School were Rev. Alexander Adams, Rev. James Robertson, Joseph Gray, Robert Martin, William Stoughton (Sloughton), Robert King, and Levin Gale. Little is known of the history of this school, but it hardly flourished. In 1770 the Maryland Assembly, upon petition, gave authority to unite the Somerset School with the Worcester County School since neither seemed to be successful alone. The new consolidated school was named Eden School, after Governor Robert Eden, last British governor of Maryland.

Worcester County, erected in 1742, was authorized in 1746 to establish a county free school. But as late as 1763 the school was not underway and in that year the Assembly directed Somerset County and its school to make an equitable distribution and pay to the visitors of The Worcestor County School its share of all funds accumulated or owing them from the time of the division of the county. This came to a considerable sum. Visitors were Rev. Patrick Glasgow, Colonel John Scarborough, Captain John Purnell, Captain Thomas Robins, Captain William Lane, Major John Selly, and Colonel James Martin. The school was established in Snow Hill and made rapid progress for a while, but in 1770 as indicated above, it was consolidated with the Somerset County School. The new Eden School attained little security and a disastrous fire in 1804 finished it. The Assembly ordered the Eden School property sold and the proceeds divided equally between the Washington Academy and a new Worcester County school created under the same act. Named visitors of the latter were John C. Handy, James B. Robins, Edward Henry, Joshua Duer, John Cottingham, John Dashiell, and Eben Christopher. In 1812 this school was combined with a private academy at Snow Hill to form the Union Academy.

The first Visitors of the Talbot County School were Rev. Henry Nichols, Colonel Matthew Tilghman Ward, Robert Ungle, Robert Goldsborough, William Clayton, John Oldham, and Thomas Bozman. Reports vary concerning the success of this school, but it seems to have prospered for many years. Because of low finances a lottery was adopted in 1764 to raise funds for the school, but

after slightly over a year it was abandoned and the school remained vacant for a period, finally going out of operation altogether when fire destroyed its buildings. The Assembly in 1782 authorized the Visitors to sell the property and close out the business of the school. Also, upon the request of the visitors, the latter were granted permission to bestow all proceeds after debts were paid upon the new Washington College at Chestertown.

In Caroline County a school named the Hillsborough School was established, but it was not referred to as the Caroline County School and is therefore not considered a County Free School such as those discussed above, based upon the Act of 1723 and subsequent legislation.

Information shows that there was a trend, "through seventy-five years of, perhaps, not less emphasis on the classics, but increasing emphasis on English, and mathematics and related topics."¹⁰ Teachers seemed to have exerted efforts to guide students into high and scholarly attainments. Securing exemplary masters who met stern qualifications was, next to finances, the most serious problem confronting the schools.

The sources of income for the schools included: (1) contributions or subscriptions by individuals; (2) Income resulting from legislative enactments, such as direct donations, gifts, or appropriations, taxes, export and import duties, loans and fines; (3) Lotteries; (4) Residue of intestate estates; (5) Land rentals; (6) Sale of property, and (7) Tuitions.

Slaybaugh says that the only county schools which continued to exist did so because they were taken over by private enterprise. Some became colleges, some became academies, and some were closed and the property turned over to the directors of the poor. Others were permanently closed and completely forgotten. Some had to give way to the public school movement which was getting underway in the first half of the nineteenth century—elementary schools about 1825 and secondary schools about 1850. Also, some church schools came onto the scene about 1800.

In his final estimate of these County Schools on the Eastern Shore (and Maryland in general), Dr. Slaybaugh calls them "a noble experiment. While they, no doubt, fell far short of meeting the high hopes which their advocates—both in and outside the legislative halls—entertained for them, they were not without beneficial and far reaching results. . . . The Assembly, considering its enlightenment and progress in democratic government at that period and the taxable resources of the colony, gave every reasonable encouragement and support to the County Free School program. Although the dreams of many were not realized, apologies are not in order. All of the schools made some worthwhile contributions toward educational and cultural advancement. A few continue, even today—more than two centuries after their beginning, as higher institutions of higher learning. Some continue as secondary schools. They served their day and generation. They blazed the trail for the better schools to follow them."

OTHER SECONDARY SCHOOLS OF THE LATER COLONIAL PERIOD, 1723-1800

Contemporary with the county free schools were many private venture, church related, and other schools which were strictly independent of any state control. Many of them existed for a very short time. Some were well established schools with wide reputations—the better of them surpassing the best county free schools.¹¹ By counties on the Eastern Shore they were:

Caroline County:

1. At Oaks, in 1793, there was a school taught by Anthony Banning.
2. At Federalsburg, the first school was situated on the west side of Main Street midway between Academy Avenue and the M. P. Church.

Cecil County:

1. Bohemia Academy, near Warwick.
2. Bohemia Manor Jesuit School. In operation probably by 1742, it formed a strong link with the Jesuit colleges of Europe.
3. Rev. Thomas Evans had a classical school at Pencader.
4. Susquehanna Lower Ferry School—near Watson's Island, either where Perryville now stands or at the location of Havre de Grace.
5. Rev. William Barroll and Rev. William Thompson of Cecil, of the Established Church, went to teaching after the Revolution broke out.
6. In 1778 a good teacher of arithmetic was advertised for who could teach thirty pupils in Charlestown.
7. In 1791 the old Charlestown jail house was authorized as a schoolhouse and for public worship of religious societies.
8. Elk Seminary (at the Head of Elk) was advertised as early as 1786.
9. Rev. Thomas Bordley had a school in Cecil County.
10. There was an "Old Stone School House Built in 1780 near Rising Sun."
11. Rev. William Duke seems to have had his own school in Elkton.
12. West Nottingham Academy, founded in 1741 (1744) by the Rev. Samuel Finley. See below.

Dorchester County:

1. A list of teachers in Dorchester County included the following in 1754: Edward McShekey, Patrick McGauran, Charles Rawling, Samuel Rose, Thomas Calwell, Isaac Obier, John Swain, Joshua Wheeler, John Kidd, Nehemiah Fronmantiel, John Day, Andrew Willson, Lancelot Slevin, Charles Handley, Francis Edwards, and Andrew Banning.
2. T. Brown (probably Thomas), a clergyman, taught in this county about the time of the Revolution.
3. There was a Dorchester Academy in 1789, with Rev. James Kemp, D.D., as principal. When this academy was started or how long it existed, is not known.

Kent County:

1. In 1724 Rev. Richard Sewall stated there were four or five small schools just begun.
2. The first free school in Kent County was established at Chestertown in 1707, under the supervision of the rector of St. Paul's Parish.
3. In 1795, Mr. Curley, a dancing master, taught French, at Chestertown.
4. M. Boudier proposed a drawing school, at Chestertown.
5. Mr. James Rolph advertised a night school at Chestertown.
6. Mr. Costello opened a "Night's French School," in Chestertown.
7. In 1793 Rev. George Ralph had a school at Georgetown.
8. In 1774, Robert Reed, a clergyman, advertised a classical school at his house, about five miles from Rock Hall.
9. After 1782 there was a boarding school for young ladies in Chestertown operated by Mrs. Henry Callister and her daughter.

Queen Anne's County:

1. Thomas Hancock, Isaac Barnes, and John Lawson were teaching small schools in Kent County in 1724.
2. Rev. Thomas Brown of St. Luke's, Queen Anne, had a school.
3. James McCoy and James Haughey opened a school here in 1790.
4. Mr. Isaac Eaton taught near Queenstown in 1790.

Somerset County:

1. Several private schools were reported in 1774.
2. Washington Academy (see article on Somerset County).
3. Salisbury Academy, in operation in 1796.
4. Rev. Samuel Sloan had a private academy at his residence near Newton during and after the Revolution.
5. The Eden School.

Talbot County:

1. Among early schoolmasters mentioned were Thomas Smith, Stephen Stitchbury, Richard Rowlinson, Lawrence Maynard, Joseph Toope, Thomas Harrison, John Jones, Joseph Price, William Edmondson, Patrick Parks, James Donellan.
2. In 1790 a lottery was proposed by H. M. Ward to raise £300 for a commodious house for a free public mathematics and English grammar school.
3. A school was opened in Easton in 1792 by a Mr. Chandler of the University of Cambridge (England).
4. Rev. John Bowie advertised a school to open on January 1, 1799, in Easton.
5. Edward Markland in 1798 taught an English and mathematical school.
6. Michael Ryan in 1799 proposed to start a school "in the vicinity of Mr. John Thomas of Wye."
7. Rev. Thomas Bacon established a charity working school in the 1750s. It endured for a short while only.
8. Friends schools.

Worcester County:

1. During 1776-1811, Rev. Samuel McMaster in addition to his three charges, taught school at Snow Hill and on the Homestead Farm near Pocomoke.
2. Scharf, the historian, tells of a Duncan and Rev. John Bowie as rectors who taught school in Worcester County.
3. Rev. Charles Tennent for four years beginning in 1763 supervised a school for boys in connection with his duties as pastor of the United Congregations of Buckingham and Blackwater.

These schools in the early part of the eighteenth century put emphasis on classical languages, but by the end of the century the emphasis had definitely shifted to modern languages, practical mathematics, and courses for business training. The school term was almost continuous except for a short vacation of about two weeks in August. There were shorter vacations at Christmas, Easter, etc. The customary school day was from 8-9 to 12, and 2 to 5.

THE ACADEMY PERIOD

"The period from about 1770 to 1800 was one without educational policy, of vacillation, of transition, or of labor pains before the birth of a new program, as evidenced by Acts of the legislature which combined to lend support to existing

county schools, to establish new ones, which established colleges, and which began to encourage a new type of secondary school—the academy. The trend, however, was very definitely in favor of the Academy.”¹² The term academy first appears in the statutes of Maryland in the year 1778.

Among the many kinds of academies from the point of view of control, the closed corporation type was the most numerous in Maryland. Wherever the academy was differently founded, it was due very likely to ecclesiastical influence, or to the desire to found an academy whose trustees would be dependent upon the will of stockholders. The academy movement in Maryland was prompted by loss of Maryland youth to Virginia and Pennsylvania schools, by the growing opposition to going abroad for an education, by the failure of the county free schools generally, and by the good reports of the few newer schools of the academy type. The first quarter of the nineteenth century saw the academy become the dominant educational institution of Maryland. Influential in the trend was Reverend Samuel Knox. Through his work as a Presbyterian minister, as a widely known teacher, and as a writer on education, he swayed the Maryland legislature in the matter of appropriations, leading to a cut in that to Washington College and a substitution of aid to academies, including Washington Academy at Princess Anne in Somerset County, and toward an academy to be established in Talbot County, and another, on the Western Shore. Between 1800 and 1850 some sixty-five academies were founded in Maryland, chartered by the Assembly.

In 1811 the General Assembly distributed the sums withdrawn from the colleges in 1805 to various county schools, including Hillsborough School in Caroline County which was to receive \$500; to West Nottingham Academy in Cecil County, \$300; to a school being built in Cambridge in Dorchester County, if completed before the last day of 1812, \$300 (this latter condition was met); to Centreville Academy, in Queen Anne's County, \$800; to Washington College, \$800. In 1812 Union Academy was incorporated, located at Snow Hill. On the Eastern Shore each county had its school, and each was in receipt of State donations, except Worcester. In consideration of donations by the State, each school or academy was required to furnish free tuition and text books for one poor child for each one hundred dollars of appropriation received.

Slaybaugh has compiled information on all schools that used the word academy in the name. Some of these were incorporated and usually received state appropriations, while some others were not incorporated and rarely received any state appropriation. For the Eastern Shore counties the following incorporated academies are listed:

Caroline County:

1. Denton Academy. The Act of incorporation for Denton in 1804 provided for a school house on the public square, but nothing was done until 1827 when the Assembly provided that \$250 should be paid over to trustees of Denton Academy. The academy was regularly organized, but had no building of its own for several years. In 1835 a public lot in Denton was set aside for an academy building, but in 1839 no building yet existed and in the following year a lottery was authorized and a two room building resulted in which both sexes were later taught. A change of location followed in 1879 and again in 1883.
2. Hillsborough School (Academy). Incorporated in 1798, its trustees were given various powers which later included the power to use certain moneys at their disposal for the education of poor children; to bind out

full orphans under certain conditions—males until 21, females until 16. In 1823 the school had one teacher, five free students, eight classical students, nineteen students in English and mathematics. This academy had indisputable sway in Caroline County until 1827 when half its State appropriation was set aside for Denton Academy. Rough years followed as it struggled to enroll the fifteen subscribing scholars necessary before the school could receive State aid. In 1878 the school was taken over by the county board of education.

Cecil County:

1. Elkton Academy. Established in 1787. Permission was granted in 1807 to run a lottery to raise funds for the school. In 1818 the school was erected into an academy. A special appropriation act of 1870 divided Cecil County's \$1200 academy fund as follows: "\$500 for Elkton Academy, \$500 for West Nottingham Academy, and \$200 for North-East Classical Seminary."
2. Perryville Academy. Incorporated in 1840.
3. Port Deposit Academy. Incorporated in 1843.
4. Washington Academy. Incorporated in 1841.

Dorchester County:

1. Cambridge Academy. Incorporated in 1812.
2. New Market Academy. Incorporated in 1819.
3. Vienna Academy. Incorporated in 1833.

Kent County:

1. Millington Academy.
2. Shrewsbury Academy. Incorporated in 1817.

Queen Anne's County:

1. Centreville Academy. Chartered by the Assembly in 1804, after prior erection.
2. Church Hill Academy. Incorporated in 1817.
3. Union Academy. Incorporated in 1839.

Somerset County:

1. The Franklin School. Incorporated in 1837. United with Washington Academy in 1842.
2. Potatoe Neck (Fairmont) Academy. Incorporated in 1839.
3. Washington Academy (Back Creek School).
4. Wetipquin Academy. Incorporated in 1834.

Talbot County:

1. Easton Academy. Incorporated in 1800.
2. St. Michael's Classical Mathematical Academy. Chartered by Assembly in 1839.

Wicomico County:

1. Salisbury Academy. Incorporated in 1818.

Worcester County:

1. Berlin Academy. Chartered by Assembly in 1830.
2. Buckingham Academy. Incorporated in 1813.
3. New Town Academy. Incorporated in 1835.
4. Snow Hill Academy.
5. Union Academy. Incorporated in 1812.

Unincorporated academies in the Eastern Shore counties include the following:

Caroline County:

1. Federalsburg Academy.

Cecil County:

1. Cecilton Academy. Organized about 1817.
2. Chesapeake City Academy. Known to exist in 1895.
3. Fredericktown Academy. Known to exist in 1869.
4. Melmar Academy. At Zion, known to exist in 1888.
5. Rock Run Academy. Presumably near Port Deposit.

Dorchester County:

1. Cambridge Military Academy. Founded in 1866.

Talbot County:

1. The Maryland Military Academy at Oxford. Organized 1848.

Slaybaugh concludes that there "is no evidence to indicate, nor any reason to suppose, that the assembly ever refused, or even hesitated, to comply with any request for the incorporation of an academy. . . . The type of corporation seems to have been entirely in accordance with the wishes of the incorporators. The number of trustees ranged anywhere from 7 to 30. Some were closed, self-perpetuating corporations in which the remaining trustees could fill all vacancies. Some were stock companies, in which the stockholders elected the trustees. In some the trustees were elected by patrons and subscribers. The trustees of many of the corporations were required to take an oath of which the following is an example: "I, A.B., do swear, that I will duly and faithfully discharge the trust committed to me, as a trustee of the Academy, to the best of my skill, and knowledge; so help me God."¹³ He continues:

The trustees were permitted almost unlimited powers in the management of the academy. They elected the principal, assistants, tutor, or ushers. They had full authority concerning the financial operation with but very few exceptions—they were required to teach one poor child for each one hundred dollars of state donation received. They were required to make annual reports. All of them receiving state appropriations at some time or another were required to make annual reports to the Assembly. They had to get special permission from the assembly to run a lottery, and usually there was a limitation on the value of the property they could own. Whether or not they were required by law to do so, most of the schools obtained permission from the Assembly to dispose of their property when the schools were permanently closed or combined with some other institution.

SCHOOLS NOT CALLED ACADEMIES OF THE LATE 18TH AND EARLY 19TH CENTURIES

Caroline County:

1. Castle Hall School. Unincorporated, started about 1820.
2. Federalsburg. The first school, situated on the west side of Main Street midway between Academy Avenue and the M. P. Church.
3. Greensboro Free School—opened c. 1816.
4. Cool Spring School at Henderson.

5. Marydel.
6. Moore's.
7. Oaks.
8. Smithville.
9. Williamson.

Cecil County:

1. Charity School. East Nottingham, provided by Acts of 1793 and 1810.
2. East Nottingham Academy. Incorporated in 1847.
3. Bethel School House. Incorporated in 1842.
4. Franklin School House. Incorporated in 1841.
5. The Grove School House. Incorporated in 1841.
6. Independence School. Incorporated in 1850.
7. Liberty Grove School. Incorporated in 1831.
8. New Design School. Incorporated in 1843.
9. Harlan's School.
10. Mr. Heath's School (Port Deposit), operating in 1867.
11. North Sassafras Parish.

Dorchester County:

1. Union School. Organized by Act of 1817.
2. Sherman Institute (or Sherwood), near Cambridge, erected 1825.

Kent County:

1. George-town School. Charter granted 1799.
2. Francis Cann's School. In the vestry house of "I.U."—created 1805.
3. Purnell Fletcher Smith's School (in South Sassafras Parish).

Queen Anne's County:

1. Kent Island School. In poor existence in 1867.
2. Daniel Stephen's School. Attached to his Parish, St. Paul's.

Somerset County:

1. Joshua Reece's School. Rector of Stepney and later of Coventry. In each he had a school.

Talbot County:

1. Oxford Neck School.
2. Dr. Joseph Spencer's School. Organized 1832.
3. The St. Michael's School.

The Maryland Assembly, says Dr. Slaybaugh, "endeavored in every instance to enact legislation desired by the people of the community or the state as a whole, whichever was concerned, whether or not the results were likely to prove to their best interests. . . . In short, it would be difficult to conceive how any legislative body could have responded more democratically than the Maryland Assembly has . . . through more than three centuries in the matter of education." Continuing, he writes:

The attitude of the state toward the incorporated schools (other than academies) was quite similar to that of the incorporated academies. The charters or acts of incorporation are very much the same as those of the academies with respect to the form of corporation and the privileges and duties of the trustees. The only distinguishing difference was that in only

rare instances did an institution that did not bear the word "academy" as a part of its title receive any financial aid from the state.

The academy—and contemporary schools, many of them of the academy type—met, fairly well, the requirements for secondary education during the period between the County-Free school period and the emergence of the high school—from about 1780 to 1820. It continued to prepare boys for college as the earlier schools had done. But, it did more by endeavoring to offer education to meet the needs of those who desired to engage in business and other vocations not necessarily requiring college training. It offered the best preparation then available for prospective teachers in the lower schools. In general it offered courses of almost every conceivable kind in order that the student might learn those things that are likely to be most useful. . . . It opened up educational opportunities for girls. It paved the way for the great system of high schools which was to follow to make secondary education available to all the children of all the people at public expense.¹⁴

WEST NOTTINGHAM ACADEMY

West Nottingham Academy, founded in 1744, is the oldest institution of secondary education on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.¹⁵ Its founder and its first head was Reverend Samuel Finley, D.D., who came to the Lower Octorara country to begin his ministry following his training at Log College under the Reverend William Tennent. Beginning his ministry at Nottingham, Finley soon had a school whose fame spread through all of the colonies. "Boys of uncommon promise came from Virginia and the Carolinas, from Delaware and Pennsylvania and New Jersey." Many came to prepare for Princeton and the ministry, others to study law and medicine, while still others distinguished themselves in public life, including the diplomatic field and in the military. Much of their success was attributable to the sound training, guidance, and advice of Dr. Finley, an artful disciplinarian, a natural-born leader of boys, and a sound scholar and teacher. There was "daily instruction in science, mathematics, natural history, philosophy, geography and the Greek and Latin classics. Boys were taught how to figure and how to express themselves. In the presence of distinguished company they had to know not only how to speak but when." Among Dr. Finley's students to attain national eminence:

There were two signers of the Declaration of Independence, two members of the Constitutional Convention, several delegates to the Continental Congress and the first Congress of the United States. There were the first elected governor of Maryland, a governor of and first United States Senator from North Carolina, the first Postmaster General of the United States, the first graduate from an American medical college, founders and presidents of colleges, two founders of the Insurance Company of North America, and three moderators of the Presbyterian General Assembly. Few schools in history ever did more to establish a nation than West Nottingham Academy.

West Nottingham Presbyterian Church, which had been at Rising Sun, was removed in 1804 to a new building on the present site. The academy was likewise moved. In 1812 under the leadership of Reverend Dr. James Magraw, the school acquired a board of trustees which was granted a charter by the Mary-

land Legislature. A two-story building was erected on the present campus and the modern West Nottingham Academy was on its way.

From 1820 to 1835 James Magraw was head of the academy and during his leadership twenty-four Nottingham alumni were ordained to the Christian ministry. Others won reputations in other fields. The most celebrated headmaster to follow Dr. Magraw was the legendary George K. Betchel. He was a rare teacher, a fine classical scholar, a Spartan disciplinarian and a sterling Christian gentleman who seems to have had a magic, deathless influence over the young men who studied under him. Most of the boys of his period did well and some of them earned high renown, including Austin L. Crothers who became governor of Maryland as well as a famous lawyer and judge.

John G. Conner succeeded Professor Bechtel as headmaster. "Under him some of the practises that characterize the present day preparatory school were seen at West Nottingham for the first time. He promoted interscholastic athletics—football, basketball, and baseball. He began a systematic plan of keeping student enrollment records and formed an alumni association. The student body ranged in number from 40 to 75 and came from all of the Middle Atlantic states.

In 1895 the trustees decided to admit girls to the academy. Their enrollment was discontinued in 1934.

When J. Paul Slaybaugh, a Dickinson College graduate, World War I veteran, and former mathematics instructor at Mercersburg Academy became headmaster in 1924, he found a campus "overgrown with underbrush, and 17 day students, 11 of whom were girls. They were veritable "children crying in the wilderness." There were bright spots, however. In 1906 the school had purchased the 260-acre Magraw property, including its fine old mansion, and in 1921 had acquired the Presbyterian manse, including 40 acres. The charter had been amended in 1915 so as to bring the academy at long last under the Presbyterian Church. Its title is legally vested in the Synod of Baltimore, although it is not yet by any means entirely supported by the church.

While Mrs. Slaybaugh acted as foster mother to the boys, the headmaster cleaned up the campus, hired a staff of competent masters and begged the money to pay them, put instruction on a College Entrance Board basis, and filled the two dormitories with boarding students. Campus morale skyrocketed almost overnight, and has continued high ever since. It is due mainly to his vision, energy and stamina that West Nottingham is once again a fine and well-known school.

Porter-Wiley Cottage was purchased in 1927, the same year that Magraw House burned to the ground. Three years later the new main dormitory was completed on the site of the Magraw House. The campus was landscaped and an artificial lake was added in 1934. The following year an old barn was converted to a field house for athletic teams, and other athletic facilities have since been added. Hilltop Cottage was erected in 1938. In 1941 came the gift of Professor Bechtel's old home and three years later the Sill House, long a boarding-house for Nottingham students, was purchased. Mrs. Slaybaugh, meanwhile, was perfecting an effective alumni association.

Today the academy is fully accredited by the Middle Atlantic States Association of Colleges and Preparatory Schools. After two hundred years, now as the Presbyterian Church's only preparatory school, West Nottingham Academy can look back upon "a rich heritage of service to the religious, educational, political, professional and business life of the United States." And it faces the future as a "vital, flourishing school, throbbing with the only legitimate business of a preparatory school—training tomorrow's leaders."

WEST NOTTINGHAM ACADEMY

List of Past Headmasters

<i>Tenures of Administration</i>		<i>Tenures of Administration</i>	
Rev. Samuel Finley, D.D.	1744-1761*	Mr. John G. Conner	1887-1902
Reuben H. Downs	1813-1815	C. C. Walker, A.M.	1902-1908
William McCrimen	1815-1816	Horace C. Gillespie,	
Rev. Isaac Bird	1816-1819	A.B., A.M.,	1908-1911
Samuel Turney	1819-1820	Wm. F. H. Wentzel, M.S.	1911-1913
Rev. James Magraw, D.D.	1820-1835	George B. Pfeiffer	1913-1914
Mr. Samuel M. Magraw	1835-1840	Rev. F. Harl Huffman,	
Rev. George Burrows	1840-1850	A.B., A.M.	1914-1915
Rev. Alexander A. Hodge	1850-1854	Walter L. Graefe, A.B.	1915-1916
Messrs. Faetz and Duffield	1854-1855	Rev. F. Harl Huffman,	
Rev. Alfred Yeomans	1856-1857	A.B., A.M.	1916-1917
Mr. William P. Andrews	1857-1859	Joseph F. Leuthner	1917-1919
Rev. A. H. Sill	1859-1862	T. H. Grim, A.M.	1919-1920
George K. Bechtel	1862-1867	Frederick A. Torrey	1920-1922
Rev. Samuel A. Gayley,		Dean E. Shull, B.S.	1922-1923
D.D.	1867-1872	William K. Cummings,	
George K. Bechtel	1872-1887	B.S., M.A.	1923-1924
C. C. Tindall	1885-1886	J. Paul Slaybaugh,	
D. I. Green	1886-1887	A.B., A.M., LL.D.	1924-1949

*No records for the period 1761-1813.

MODERN PUBLIC EDUCATION

Authority for the present Maryland public school system is found in Article VIII of the Constitution of 1867. At various times before this, however, there was much discussion of a State School system and even the creation of a fine plan, incorporated into the ill-fated Constitution of 1864. As early as 1784 annual appropriations were made to Washington College and St. John's College.¹⁶ The amount appropriated for Washington College was decreased fourteen years later and appropriations were inaugurated for academies as previously shown.¹⁷ All college appropriations were discontinued in 1805, but later renewed along with aid to the academies.¹⁸ These appropriations, which varied from time to time, were known as the academy and college donations or as the Academy Fund.

The second form of state aid was intended for common, or free schools, and was provided for in an Act of 1813, to be raised by a tax on bank stock. This act pledged the money for a "general system of free schools throughout the State of Maryland."¹⁹ The State waited, however, until 1825 before it acted courageously by enacting a law to provide "for the public instruction of youth in primary schools throughout the State."²⁰ The law was optional with the counties, which, together with some of its other features, prevented the establishment of a uniform State system. Thirteen counties adopted it, including Talbot, Queen Anne's, Kent and Cecil, while it was rejected in six counties, including Worcester, Somerset, Dorchester, and Caroline.²¹

The distribution of the federal surplus revenue in 1837 again brought to the fore the idea of a system of public education. Maryland ordered that \$681,387.25

from its share should be deposited in a bank to draw five per cent interest which was to go to Baltimore City and the counties for common schools.²² By 1842 the matter was still under discussion. The Legislature that year appointed a committee to prepare "a system or code for the government of common schools, and for the promotion of general education within the State of Maryland."²³ The committee's report included a plan for a school system, but the Legislature took



Pemberton Elementary School, Salisbury

no action on it. Some counties and Baltimore City, however, secured special legislation under which they established public schools, financing them with the state aid and county taxes.²⁴

At the Constitutional Convention of 1851 an effort was made by the friends of public education to secure a constitutional statement on education. A committee was appointed to make recommendations, which it did on February 25, 1851. Four items were included: (1) A permanent and adequate school fund, to be established by the Legislature as soon as the financial conditions of the State would justify it; (2) A uniform system of common school education, to be established by the Legislature as soon as an adequate permanent school fund was established; (3) A superintendent of education, or common schools, to be elected by the voters; (4) A normal school, to be established by the Legislature.²⁵

After debate for the greater part of one day, further consideration of the report was indefinitely postponed by a vote of 46 to 35.²⁶ Worcester voted 4-0 against postponement, while Dorchester cast 4 and Talbot, Queen Anne's, and

Kent three each for postponement (each of these latter four had one member not voting). Somerset had two votes for postponement, one against, and two abstaining; Caroline had two votes for, one against, and one abstaining; and Cecil had two for, one against, and two abstaining. Altogether, the eight Eastern Shore counties cast 19 votes for postponement, seven against postponement, and had nine abstainers.²⁷ Proposals to have other recommendations acted upon resulted in tabling action, and so the Constitution as submitted to the voters made no definite provisions for a State school system.

After the failure of the Convention of 1850-1851 to make provision for a State school system the counties continued their own efforts and by 1864 each had made some provision for public education. Among the counties there was no uniformity. Most of them had county boards of education, known by a variety of names, and with a variety of membership and mode of selection. All counties on the Eastern Shore except Cecil had district boards, usually consisting of three or five members, and with varying amounts of power. Provisions for school support also varied. Usually the counties levied a county school tax, with varying legal rates. In Caroline County, however, the tax was levied by districts, while the school law for Worcester contained no reference to such a tax. There was no uniformity in the manner of employment of teachers. They were usually examined by county authorities, but in Kent County the district trustees judged their qualifications. Schools in Cecil County were conducted on a county basis. On the other hand, those in Caroline and Kent were run by the election districts, each of which was divided into school districts. The county-district arrangement was the most common form of organization.²⁸

There were determined efforts between 1851 and 1864 to bring some uniformity into public education but none was successful. While there was no uniform school system in 1864, state aid was forthcoming to the extent of approximately \$60,000 a year, one-half of which was distributed to the counties and Baltimore City in proportion to the amount of the white population of each and one-half of which was distributed equally among the counties and Baltimore City.²⁹

Proponents of a State school system recognized their opportunity when the Constitutional Convention of 1864 was assembled. They had six sections—Article VIII—incorporated into the Constitution of 1864 providing for a uniform system of public schools. Except for the rather abortive, optional law of 1825, this was the first legal enactment for the system. It required the Governor to appoint a State Superintendent of public instruction who, in 1865, was to report to the General Assembly a plan for a uniform system of free public schools. It was the responsibility of the General Assembly to provide this system, and in case it failed to discharge the obligation the system reported by the State Superintendent was to become the system of free public schools of Maryland. The Constitution also provided for an *ex officio* State Board of Education, for county school commissioners, for a State school tax, and for a permanent State school fund.

The public school section of the Constitution of 1864 was adopted by a vote of 56 to 18. All of the votes of Somerset, Dorchester, Queen Anne's, and Kent counties were cast in opposition, each opposing the new Constitution.³⁰

The school system created in 1864 was supported from several sources. The General Assembly levied an annual State tax of 15 cents on each \$100 of taxable property and ordered it to be distributed according to the Constitution. This tax constituted the major support of the schools. Certain fines, forfeitures and penalties were also allowed for public schools.

The Levy and Apportionment of the State School Tax for the Eastern Shore counties in 1865 and 1866 combined was as follows:⁸¹

<i>Counties</i>	<i>Levy</i>	<i>Apportionment</i>
Cecil	\$23,524.22	\$29,509.84
Queen Anne's	16,232.67	20,737.48
Kent	15,930.24	16,820.81
Somerset	15,552.09	33,136.26
Talbot	15,203.92	18,763.78
Worcester	13,988.63	27,764.94
Dorchester	13,859.04	26,668.81
Caroline	6,383.70	14,946.14
	-----	-----
Total for Eastern Shore	\$120,674.51	\$188,348.06
Total for Maryland	\$847,593.67	\$847,593.67

This first uniform school system for Maryland must be termed a success. During the school year 1866-1867 more than 71,000 children attended 1,279 schools in the State, and the sum of \$436,205 was spent for the schools in the counties, a cost of \$8.74 for "each average pupil."³² Teachers were examined, a successful State normal system was established, several high schools were organized, and other indications of success were evident.³³ There was opposition, of course. Part of it was due to political maneuvering and prejudice. Some feared the system was too centralized in the State; others argued the expense was too great. Some opposed the provisions for the selection and distribution of uniform textbooks, while others were violently opposed to the expense of maintaining county supervisors.

Framers of the Constitution of 1867, which superseded that adopted three years earlier, provided in Article VIII that the General Assembly of Maryland should establish throughout the State a thorough and efficient system of free public schools to be maintained by taxation or otherwise. The office of State Superintendent was abolished and full control was put into the hands of elected county school commissioners. The Constitution further declared that the school fund of the State should be kept inviolate and appropriated only to the purposes of education. It was not until the Constitution was amended in 1916, however, that the provision of funds in the State budget was made mandatory. Estimates of appropriations for public education, as provided by law, are now listed with those for the Legislative Department, Judiciary, and other purposes required by the Constitution and laws of the State, and must be included in the budget by the Governor without revision.³⁴

Steady progress was made in the public school system during the latter nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In 1915, however, the General Education Board Survey of the Maryland State School System "took rather pointed issue with much of the educational legislation and many of the educational practices of that period." Since that year, many of the recommendations which grew out of that study have been adopted and have "given direction to the expansion of the Maryland School System."³⁵

The 1916 revision of the school law incorporated the following fundamental requirements for a good school system:³⁶

Members of State and county boards of education appointed for long terms

by the governor without regard to political affiliation, the terms of the various members overlapping.

A State Superintendent of Schools, a trained and experienced leader appointed by the State Board of Education, with authority to recommend the appointment of trained, well-qualified staff assistants.

County superintendents, trained and experienced school men, appointed by the county boards of education with the approval of the State Superintendent of Schools, with authority to recommend the appointment of trained supervisors, attendance officers, and clerks.

State-wide compulsory school attendance required for children of ages 7 to 16 years, with exemptions under certain conditions for ages 13 to 16 years.

State certification of teachers on the basis of training.

Tenure for teachers who give satisfactory service during a two-year probationary period.

A minimum State salary schedule for white teachers and school officials based on type of certificate and experience.

A minimum school year of seven months for colored schools.

SCHOOL LEGISLATION IN 1918 AND SUBSEQUENT YEARS

In 1918 and 1920 the minimum salary schedules for white teachers were increased and minimum monthly schedules were set up for colored elementary school teachers and for colored high school principals and teachers, according to certificate and experience. The provisions of the Federal Smith-Hughes Act, giving aid to promotion of vocational education in agriculture, home economics, and trade and industries, were accepted in 1918.

In 1922 the school law was strengthened to provide for supervision of elementary schools in every county, and to establish the basis for equalizing opportunities through the distribution of a State Equalization Fund to the counties which are financially poor. The law setting up the Equalization Fund provided that any county which could not carry the State's minimum program for schools on a county levy of 67 cents plus other forms of State aid should receive aid from the Equalization Fund.

The salary schedules for teachers, principals, and school officials were increased, as was State aid for salaries for county superintendents, supervisors, and attendance officers. The minimum school year for colored schools was increased to eight months.

In 1927 the Legislature established the State Teachers' Retirement System, which provides for contributions from members and from the State to make retirement possible at age sixty and mandatory at age seventy. The allowance of a teacher who has taught for thirty-five years amounts to half the average annual salary during the last ten years of service. Provision for retirement for disability also is made, as well as payments for those who die in service. Those who resign from the service before retirement may withdraw their contributions with four per cent interest.

In 1929 the Legislature accepted the provisions and benefits of the Federal Act providing for vocational rehabilitation of persons disabled in industry or otherwise and to facilitate their employment.

In 1929 and 1931 the Legislature provided for the examination, classification, and education of handicapped children and arranged for State aid of a maximum of \$200 for each physically handicapped child. Approved classes for mentally

handicapped children could be considered a part of the State minimum program and therefore entitled to State aid through the Equalization Fund.

The 1931 Legislature amended the law to require children of ages 7 to 16 years to attend school during the entire session except children of ages 14 and 15 who are regularly and lawfully employed. The same Legislature increased the requirement for graduation from the State Normal Schools for white students to at least three years' work.

In 1933 the State minimum program which was used as a basis in calculating the Equalization Fund was more carefully defined to include the following items:

1. The minimum salaries as provided by law.
2. An expenditure for current expenses other than teachers' salaries of not less than 24 per cent of the total current expenses.³⁷
3. One hundred per cent of the cost of transporting pupils to elementary schools.
4. At least one half of the cost of transporting pupils to high schools.

In 1933 also, the county levy necessary for participation in the Equalization Fund was reduced from the 67 cents established in the 1922 legislation to 47 cents on each \$100 of assessable basis taxable at the full rate for county purposes. At the same time provision of a tax reduction fund of \$1,500,000 for the counties distributed in accordance with population in the 1930 Federal Census, made it possible for the counties not sharing in the Equalization Fund to reduce their county levy for schools by from 13 to 16 cents. Temporary reductions in salaries of teachers and school officials were authorized by the 1933 Legislature for two years, beginning in September, 1933.

The 1933 Legislature also gave the State Board of Education authority to fix uniform charges and fees at the Normal Schools for white students.

The Legislature of 1937 extended the term for which county public schools for colored youth must be open from 160 to 180 days, to take effect as of September 1, 1939.

The 1939 Legislature made an outstanding contribution to the Maryland public school laws by revising the minimum salary schedule for white teachers. The previous schedule had been passed in 1922 and was greatly in need of revision upward. The new schedule complies with this requirement and is based on sound salary schedule principles, according to which the preparation and experience of the teacher determine her compensation, except that special salaries are provided for administrative positions. Teachers in either elementary or high schools who have degrees will be paid at least from \$1200 to \$1800 a year, the higher salary being reached only after seventeen years of satisfactory experience. To finance these salary increases the county levy for school current expenses necessary for participation in the State Equalization Fund was increased from 47 to 51 cents.

Another act passed by the 1939 Legislature authorized the governor to appoint a commission to survey the public elementary and high schools and the State Teachers colleges in Maryland.

In late 1949, as this is written, it is impossible to present a completely up-to-date picture of the public school system on the Eastern Shore. But suffice it to say, a great amount of progress has been made since the close of World War II. The schools of the Eastern Shore carried on magnificently during the war despite many handicaps. Although adjustments were made in the salary scale of teachers,

the turnover remained great. It was difficult keeping teachers in the profession, as well as drawing back some of those who entered the armed and allied services or who took more remunerative positions in industry and business. It was necessary to issue war emergency certificates to those otherwise unable to meet standard



(Photos by Perry-Pix, Salisbury)

Salisbury Elementary School

qualifications. Tuition fees in the State Teachers colleges were eliminated, resulting in a great increase in enrollment for training in elementary school teaching.

Legislation in 1945 brought smaller classes to elementary schools and made possible the introduction of the twelve-year program for county pupils. This long-needed change, representing a "challenge and opportunity," made it "possible to rethink the entire school offering to make it more functional in meeting the needs of present-day boys and girls."³⁸ At the same time it brought forcefully to mind that school construction postponed during the war must be given high priority, especially in view of the increased enrollments and the added grade. The Department of Education was called upon for the guidance of veterans regarding educational and training opportunities, and other services. The schools had aided greatly in certain types of war-time training for both military and industrial service.

The regular session of the 1947 Maryland Legislature, in the words of State Superintendent Pullen, "was conspicuous for its enlightened attitude toward education and its splendid support of the public school system."³⁹ A new teachers'

minimum salary schedule was adopted which placed Maryland high in the nation in this respect. Salaries of superintendents and supervisors were likewise increased. The Legislature also provided that after January 1, 1951, State aid should be available to reduce the size of classes to an average of thirty in enrollment. High school supervisors were established for each county with the State assuming responsibility for two-thirds of their salaries. The State also agreed to share in the salaries of the newly created county supervisors of pupil personnel who replaced the old attendance officers. Other new services and funds were established by the State to aid the counties. The cost of transporting children to high school has been made part of the minimum county program in the calculation of the Equalization Fund. The county levy required for participation in the Equalization Fund was increased from 56 cents to 65 cents. Other changes have eliminated the provision permitting children between fourteen and sixteen years of age who are lawfully employed to withdraw from school.

Enrollment in the public schools of the Eastern Shore counties increased as shown below in 1949-1950 over the previous year, according to figures made public by the State Department of Education:⁴⁰

<i>County</i>	<i>1948-1949</i>	<i>1949-1950</i>	<i>Increase</i>
Caroline	3,236	3,343	107
Cecil	5,031	5,356	325
Dorchester	4,385	4,468	83
Kent	2,315	2,327	12
Queen Anne's	2,483	2,555	72
Somerset	3,462	3,585	123
Talbot	3,102	3,222	120
Wicomico	5,691	6,087	396
Worcester	3,802	3,864	62
EASTERN SHORE	33,507	34,807	1,300
BALTIMORE CITY	104,860	108,000*	3,140
ALL MARYLAND	301,019	318,986	17,967

*An estimate, as final Baltimore City enrollment figures were not available at this date.

As in all phases of life, Eastern Shoremen of today find great changes have been made in the schools over a few years ago. Although many will not readily accept some of the trends in public education, very few would deny that those responsible for public education are making an effort to give the best possible training for citizenship, vocational activity, and cultural enjoyment. In the final analysis, the public receives pretty much what it wants in the schools, inasmuch as parents, patrons, and any other taxpayers can make their demands felt and force their adoption if they make sense to enough people.

At best it is a difficult task trying to keep abreast of the fast moving world and nowhere is this more reflected than in the public school system. It is gratifying to note, however, that the average teacher and certainly school officials on all levels are constantly striving to meet the challenge. It would appear that more help is needed from the home, and from religious and other institutions, to obtain the best results in fitting the youth of the area to cope with the problems of the coming age. School people as a whole are self-sacrificing people who ask for little

compared to what they give. Yet only in recent years has the public commenced to accord proper respect and recognition to those who contribute so much in the shaping of the nation's most priceless natural resource—its youth.

NOTES, CHAPTER XXXI

1. *Archives of Maryland*, I, pp. 494-495.
2. J. Paul Slaybaugh, *Private (Independent) Secondary Education in Maryland, 1634-1870*. (Unpublished). This study is divided into four major parts: (1) The Early Colonial Period; (2) The County Free School Period, 1723-1800; (3) The Academy Period; (4) The Transition from the Dominance of the Private School to the Dominance of the Public School.
3. *Archives of Maryland*, Assembly Proceedings, September 20-October 18, 1694.
4. Slaybaugh, *op. cit.*
5. George Johnston, *History of Cecil County*, p. 279.
6. *Maryland Gazette*, April 25, 1745.
7. *Ibid.*, December 20, 1770.
8. E. H. Brown, Jr., "First Free School in Queen Anne's County," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, VI, No. 1 (March, 1911), p. 2.
9. *Ibid.*, p. 10.
10. Slaybaugh, *op. cit.*
11. Slaybaugh, *op. cit.*, Chapter 7.
12. Slaybaugh, *op. cit.*
13. *Op. cit.*; *Laws of Maryland*, Chapter 144, 1812.
14. Slaybaugh, *op. cit.*
15. Henry Gress Hanna, *West Nottingham Academy: Bicentennial Historical Sketch* (October, 1946). From this pamphlet comes all information presented on West Nottingham Academy. See also Johnston, *History of Cecil County, Maryland*.
16. *Laws of Maryland*, 1784, Ch. 7 and 37.
17. *Laws of Maryland*, 1798, Ch. 107.
18. *Ibid.*, 1805, Ch. 85; *Ibid.*, 1811, Res. Nos. 38, 39, 43, 45, 46, 50.
19. *Ibid.*, 1813, Ch. 122.
20. *Ibid.*, 1825, Ch. 162.
21. Bernard C. Steiner, *History of Education in Maryland* (Washington, Government Printing Office, 1894), p. 60.
22. *Laws of Maryland*, 1836, Ch. 220.
23. *Ibid.*, 1842, Res. 1.
24. L. E. Blauch, "Education and the Maryland Constitutional Convention 1850-1851," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XXV, No. 2 (June, 1930), pp. 174-175.
25. *Maryland Constitutional Convention, 1851, Debates and Proceedings*, I, p. 339.
26. *Ibid.*, II, pp. 805-812.
27. Blauch, *op. cit.*, pp. 177-178.
28. L. E. Blauch, "Education and the Maryland Constitutional Convention, 1864," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XXV, No. 3 (September, 1930), pp. 226-228. Blauch draws his information from articles on the various counties found in the *Maryland Code*, *Public Local Laws*, 1860, and *Maryland Code Supplement*, 1861-1867.
29. Blauch, "Education and the Maryland Constitutional Convention, 1864," *op. cit.*, pp. 228-229.
30. *Ibid.*, p. 233.
31. First and Second Annual Reports of State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Quoted in L. E. Blauch, "The First Uniform School System of Maryland, 1865-1868," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XXVI, No. 3 (September, 1931), p. 212.
32. *Ibid.*, p. 224.
33. *Ibid.*
34. Maryland State School Survey Commission, *The 1941 Survey of The Mary-*

land Public Schools and Teachers Colleges, p. 17.

35. *Ibid.*

36. Summarized in *ibid.*, pp. 19-21.

37. Excluding 100 per cent of the cost of transporting pupils to elementary schools and at least 50 per cent of the cost of transporting them to high schools.

38. Thomas G. Pullen, Jr., State Superintendent of Schools in his Letter of Transmittal to Governor O'Connor, *Eightieth Annual Report of the State Board of Education Showing Condition of the Public Schools of Maryland For the Year Ending June 30, 1946*, p. 6. Annual Reports are three years behind schedule in being published.

39. *The Public School Laws of Maryland, 1948* (Maryland School Bulletin, XXVIII, No. 2, April, 1948), p. 7.

40. *Baltimore Sun*, November 2, 1949.

CHAPTER XXXII

Washington College

*By Gilbert W. Mead and Charles B. Clark**

On the shores of the beautiful Chester River, in the historic village of Chestertown, is located Washington College, Maryland's sole colonial college, the eleventh oldest institution of higher learning in America.

Chartered by the General Assembly in 1782, Washington College boasted from the beginning the active interest and support of the leaders of the state and nation.

Conditions and personalities were in favorable conjunction for the auspicious launching of the enterprise. The war had interrupted the progress of youth from the colonies to the universities at Oxford and Cambridge. The academic peace of certain of the then few colleges along the seaboard had been disturbed by the passing to and fro of armed troops, and the location of Chestertown recommended itself as distant from the center of the disturbance. Moreover, there was already flourishing in the town what was apparently the most successful of the county schools, endowed by the appropriation of one hundred acres of land in each county by the Assembly in 1723. The advantage offered by this act was not made use of by many of the counties, and in others, the schools did not succeed and the property reverted to the county for other uses.

How long the Kent County School had existed as a private enterprise previous to the Act of 1723 is not certain. There is some evidence that the Kent County School was built upon a school established in Kent County, at Chestertown, in 1707 or earlier and supervised by the rector of St. Paul's Parish. At any rate, it had a long and honorable history even before the advent in 1780 of the Reverend William Smith, D.D., to whose vigor and indefatigable energy the college owes its inception. A native of Scotland, he had graduated from the University of Aberdeen in 1747, and after a few years spent as schoolmaster in Scotland had transferred his activities to America. A vigorous and controversial idealist, he was known throughout the colonies as an eloquent preacher and an extensive and enthusiastic writer.

In Philadelphia Dr. Smith became closely associated with Benjamin Franklin, and found an important opportunity to practice his educational theories as

* Dr. Mead, at the time of his death in March, 1949, had planned this article. As a basis, he was using the article he wrote for the fourth edition (revised) of Swepson Earle's *Chesapeake Bay Country* (Baltimore, 1934). The greater part of this chapter is taken from this source, with permission of Mrs. Earle and Lt. Comdr. P. V. H. Weems, possessors of the copyright. The Editor of this publication, who completed the article, is entirely responsible for that part of it relating to Dr. Mead's administration, as well as for the remainder of the material not taken from the article in Earle's work.

first provost of the College of Philadelphia (now the University of Pennsylvania) from 1754 until difficulties concerning the original charter forced his withdrawal in 1779. He thereupon removed to Chestertown, as master of the Kent County School and rector of the Chester Parish. Though he had long been resident in the colonies, he had, on the occasion of a visit to England, been honored with a degree from Oxford University, for which he was sponsored by the Archbishop of Canterbury and four bishops; and by degrees from his *Alma Mater*, Aberdeen, and Trinity College, Dublin.

It is stated in the Washington College charter¹ that the foundation of the county schools had been with the intention later "as their future circumstances might permit, to engraft or raise, on the foundation of said schools, more extensive seminaries of learning, by erecting one or more colleges, or places of universal study, not only in the learned languages, but in philosophy, divinity, law, physics, and other useful and ornamental arts and sciences." In spite, therefore, of the depression occasioned by the years of war, Maryland was sympathetic to the foundation of its first college, and needed only the enthusiastic leadership of a man like Smith to bring it to pass.

Mention is made also in the preamble to the Washington College charter that the Kent County School, "hath of late increased greatly, . . . there being now about one hundred and forty students and scholars in the said school, and the number expected soon to increase to at least two hundred."

The comparative importance of the undertaking in founding the first college in Maryland may be judged by the enrollment figures of some of the few colleges then existing in the colonies. Yale was the largest with about two hundred in 1782; Harvard numbered one hundred and forty-one; and Dartmouth that year enrolled eighty-one; Princeton had forty; Rutgers eighteen with an academy of twenty. The College of Philadelphia had thirty-one in college and two hundred and forty-one in the academy. Columbia (King's College) was closed 1776-84. Brown (the College of Rhode Island) suspended 1776-82. William and Mary has no record for 1782 and three students listed for 1783; while Washington and Lee (Liberty Hall Academy) did not grant its first degree until 1785, when twelve constituted the graduating class. Washington College, which graduated four in 1783 and the same number in 1784, was, therefore, one of the larger colleges of the colonies, and by 1796 thirty-seven students had received the A. B. degree from the college.

With the express consent of General George Washington, the new college was called by his name. He gladly headed the list of subscriptions to the new endowment with a gift of fifty guineas "as an earnest of my wishes for the prosperity of this seminary."

By the terms of the charter, the sum of £5,000 beyond the value of the Kent County School was to be raised within five years. Though no longer a young man, the tireless Scot, Dr. Smith, mounted his horse and canvassed the wealthy planters of the Eastern Shore counties, and those of the Virginia Eastern Shore, with such success that the whole amount was secured within five months, the exact sum being £5,992, 14s. 5d. Governor William Paca headed the list for Queen Anne's with a subscription of £50. The Visitors of Talbot County Free School contributed £400 and the Visitors of Cecil County Free School £150. Total subscriptions from Kent County amounted to £1,522, 9s. 5d, by October, 1782; and Queen Anne's was second with £1,050. Dorchester was a close third with £1,021, and Talbot gave £971.15s. By May, 1783, at the first Commencement, Dr. Smith announced the total capital raised as £10,-

300. The largest individual gift was £100 from Robert Goldsborough of Caroline County, whose son, Charles Goldsborough, was married to Dr. Smith's daughter, Williamina Elizabeth, on the day of the laying of the cornerstone of the college by Governor Paca, May 14, 1783.



(Courtesy of the College)

Rev. William Smith, First President of Washington College

The years of Dr. Smith's presidency were filled with historic highlights. The first Commencement, held on May 14, 1783, was in the best academic tradition of the day, with orations in the classical tongues, as well as in English; debates, and a great procession to the present campus, where the cornerstone of the first college building was laid by Governor William Paca, who received a salvo of thirteen discharges of cannon to greet him.

In 1784, General Washington, who had accepted a place on the Board of Visitors and Governors, was honored by the students, who presented before him a performance of the tragedy of "Gustavus Vasa," the Swedish liberator, with a flowery epilogue, linking the names of Vasa and Washington, presumably to the great enthusiasm of the large crowd which is recorded as being present.

With his election as first President of the newly formed United States, General Washington retired from the Board of Visitors and Governors, and accepted the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from the College. The original diploma of the degree is a treasured item in the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress. It is dated June 24, 1789. Washington wrote a letter of appreciation on July 11, 1789 to Dr. William Smith, closing it as follows:

It affords me peculiar pleasure to know that the Seat of Learning under your direction hath attained to such proficiency in the Sciences since the Peace; and I sincerely pray the great Author of the Universe may smile upon the Institution, and make it an extensive blessing to this country.

Whereas this was the fourth honorary degree awarded Washington, it was the first he received after becoming President. It was presented to him in New York, then the seat of Congress, by Dr. Smith, United States Senator John Henry, and Joshua Seney, Representative in Congress. The two latter were members of the Board of Visitors and Governors and had been appointed to assist Dr. Smith in bestowing the honor upon President Washington.

Judged by contemporary drawings which have been preserved, the original Washington College building was imposing and beautiful. It extended its length of one hundred and sixty feet along the terrace on the upper campus, overlooking the river and town. The central portion was one hundred feet deep, the two wings sixty feet each. Its total destruction by fire in 1827 robbed the present generation of what must have been an excellent example of colonial collegiate architecture.

The vigor of Dr. William Smith was not all expended in the launching of the college. He instituted the Grand Lodge of Maryland Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. Because of the severance between the organization of the Church of England and the scattered parishes in the colonies conditioned by the war, Dr. Smith called a convention of the Maryland parishes to meet at Washington College. A second and larger meeting under his leadership took place in the Chester Parish Church, now the Emmanuel P. E. Church in Chestertown. At this historic meeting, there was adopted the designation "The Protestant Episcopal Church," which the denomination still bears.

Dr. Smith, in 1783, was chosen the first Protestant Episcopal Bishop of Maryland, but was never consecrated. He continued to devote his life to the college until he returned to Philadelphia in 1789, leaving the young college in a flourishing state.

Dr. Smith's successor was Dr. Colin Ferguson, a native of Kent County. He was educated at the University of Edinburgh and had served the college as Professor of Languages, Mathematics, and Natural Philosophy from the beginning. He was also an ordained rector of the Protestant Episcopal Church, having studied theology under Dr. Smith. He was regarded as an excellent teacher. He continued in the Presidency until 1805. The notice of his death in the *Maryland Gazette* is interesting for its description of his versatility and character:

Departed this life the 10th ult., in the 53rd year of his age, at his farm in Kent County, the place of his nativity, the Rev. Colin Ferguson, D.D., late principal of Washington College. This accomplished teacher, who had so successfully explored the different regions of science, received the rudiments of his education at the University of Edinburgh, and has employed his talents for more than 30 years in the instruction of youth in his native country. The various branches of philosophy and natural history were familiar to him, and as a linguist he has seldom been equalled, having acquired a competent knowledge of the English, French, Italian, Spanish, German, Latin, Greek, Hebrew, and Erie languages. With a fancy to be captivated at the poet's song, he united an energy of interest to solve

the sublimest and most abstruse proposition in geometry. His amiable disposition in school won him the respect and affection of his pupils. He has left a widow and two children.²

A noted traveller from abroad, visiting in Chestertown just prior to 1800, recorded his observations of Washington College as follows:

The college, which is a large building, on the summit of a hill, commands a view of this little town. This building is in a deplorable state of decay, although it is not yet finished. There is no glass in any of the windows; the walls have fallen in many places and the doors are without steps. . . . This establishment is endowed with three thousand three hundred and thirty dollars a year. It maintains a president and three masters; the number of scholars, however, is not more than forty or fifty, though for sixteen dollars all the branches of learning which are taught there may be acquired. Boarders pay eighty or ninety dollars for their board. Twelve or fifteen hundred dollars have already been expended on this building. It is constructed on a plan large enough to receive five hundred scholars. Funds are wanting to complete it, and like almost all the public buildings in America it will be in ruins before it is finished.

Liancourt said the president of the college had a salary of eight hundred dollars, besides a residence, and earned another three hundred as minister of the church "about the middle" of the "principal street . . . built on a large space of ground . . . the windows and the walls of which are not in a much better condition than those of the college."³

From the beginning of educational legislation in Maryland, it is evident that the state was planning an extensive system of public education. It is evident also that Washington was considered, from its original charter, as a state institution. The chartering of St. John's College at Annapolis in 1784 was looked upon as the establishing of the Western Shore branch of what, with Washington College, was to constitute the State University. But beginning in 1805, state appropriations to both colleges declined, and at last ceased altogether, after a series of agreements, legislative enactments, and judicial decisions, the last arising out of litigation against the state instituted by St. John's.

To supplement the receipts from students and to rehabilitate the endowment, the college under President Joab G. Cooper in 1816 was hard pressed for a solution. But Cooper was aware of such devices as public lotteries and upon his advice the college, with the intent of raising money through loans on Kent County real estate, petitioned for, and was granted, a thirty thousand dollar lottery, later raised to \$80,000, on which it could sell chances, or sell complete rights to one of the many lottery speculators.

Soon after these lottery rights were received, a change in college presidents occurred, and an ardent Methodist clergyman, Francis Waters (for whom Waters Hall is named), assumed the presidency for seven and one-half years. In respect to President Waters' stand on gambling, all action on the lottery was ceased. In 1823, however, the more liberal Timothy Clowes was elected president, and immediately thereafter the lottery rights were sold at a profit of twenty thousand dollars to Palmer Cranfield, a New York speculator.

About \$2,000 of the proceeds was invested in Baltimore bank stock. The rest, in loans of \$2,000 each was invested in Kent County farm mortgages. Some of the well-known names of the county appear on the list of mortgagees.

Prominent on the College Board were such persons as Senator Ezekiel F. Chambers; J. B. Ricaud, later Congressman; James Alfred Pearce the elder, who was later both Congressman and Senator, and John B. Eccleston, who in 1851 became a member of the Court of Appeals.⁴

The institution now seemed on the road to renewed prosperity. Progress was being made, academically and administratively. President Cooper had revised the curriculum and now President Waters attempted to improve the general living conditions of the students, and to add material equipment. He it was who first secured from the Board of Visitors and Governors, in 1819, a decree to the effect that all students must board in the common dining hall of the College, under the direction of the steward. A long and very elaborate set of rules was adopted, some of which today seem quite humorous, some quite antiquated, and some very modern. There were 24 items in this code. A few of them were:⁵

1. At the ringing of the bell for breakfast, dinner, and supper, the students shall peaceably enter the dining room and shall stand reverently at their respective places until grace be said.

3. There shall be no unnecessary talking during meals.

4. There shall be no running about in the dining room, nor any pulling or throwing victuals during meals.

11. The steward shall not be obliged to provide victuals for any student who shall have been unnecessarily absent from the ordinary meals.

Then a few general college rules were added, not limited to conduct in the dining hall:

17. There shall be no whistling, jumping, ball-playing, or other boisterous noise at any time within the college.

18. No game of chance of any kind shall at any time be played within the college.

19. The tutors and steward shall have access at all times to the rooms of the students, and in case of resistance shall be authorized to break open the door and the damage shall be repaired by the offending party.

20. No student shall keep within the college or elsewhere any spirituous or fermented liquors, fire arms, ammunition, or weapons of any sort without permission of the principal or steward, and no student shall frequent any tavern, alehouse, or any place of entertainment without permission of a tutor or the steward.

There is no record of any trouble Noah may have had in the Ark between his passengers and the ship's cook; but probably only because he didn't keep a full log of the voyage. Every college has it as a regular worry, and Washington College in 1821 was no exception. There is interest, however, in the way the matter was settled. The president reported the complaint to the board. The board set a special meeting at the court-house, for the next day, and directed the students, the faculty, and the steward of the dining hall to be present. The chairman of the board then made an address, the full text of which has been preserved. Here is his opening paragraph:

Young Gentlemen:

The Board of Visitors have taken into serious consideration the complaint you have laid before them, respecting the provisions furnished for

your table by the steward of the college and have determined to direct the fare, that in future shall be provided for you. On three days of the week you shall have at your dinner both fresh and salted meat. On those days which salted meat only is provided a plain dessert will be added to your dinner and on every day you will have two dishes of different kinds of vegetables. You are not to be restricted in the quantity of coffee at your breakfast and supper. In directing the bill of fare, the board are of the opinion that they have given you quite as good a one as the steward can furnish for the price of board he receives from you and confidently expect that it will be satisfactory to you. I have it also in charge to say to you that while the Board of Visitors consider it their duty to see that good and wholesome provisions be furnished to you that they can not and will not attend to vexations and frivolous complaints—such they hope will not be made to them.

The speaker, the Honorable Chairman of the Board, was Thomas Worrall, Esq., who had, as a boy, delivered one of the French orations at the laying of the cornerstone thirty-eight years before.

The rest of his speech is given over to an exhortation on general discipline, with the iron hand of authority never masked by the velvet glove of moderation.

In 1817 the college was threatened by fire. The board on December 8, 1817, adopted a resolution of thanks to Thomas Taylor and James Lynch "for their great exertions in extinguishing the late fire at the college, and releasing Thomas Taylor from the payment of rent on his lot up to the present time, and also making Thomas Bowser, free Negro, and (-----) compensation of two dollars each for their assistance in extinguishing the said fire."

The secretary left a place to insert the name of the fourth person to be mentioned, but it was never entered, and the space remains blank.

In 1826, after various troubles with the steward's department, the board put it into the hands of a woman, Mrs. Sarah Blake; the supervision of conduct in the dining hall being left to one of the teachers who boarded in the college.

Then fell the great and tragic blow which came perilously close to extinguishing forever the existence of the college. The records are brief but comprehensive. In the minute books, under Friday, January 12, 1827, one reads: "Special meeting," and after the names of those present this entry: "Yesterday evening about half past seven o'clock it was discovered that the college was on fire. The fire commenced among a parcel of corn blades belonging to Mrs. Sarah B. Blake and then in the cellar under the common hall. In a few hours the whole building was destroyed."

The local press commented as follows: "Between the hours of 7 and 8 last night the alarm of fire was given in our village. It was soon discovered to proceed from Washington College. The fire originated in the cellar under the common hall or center building, in a quantity of hay or fodder. It is not known whether by accident or design."

The damage was done. Forty-five years after the auspicious beginning, the work of William Smith lay in ashes. Nothing was saved. President Clowes and Professor Duncan, whose living quarters were in the building, lost all their personal belongings and library. College Hill—or Mount Washington as the townfolks often called it—was crowned by nothing but a mass of ruins. The advantages gained by the recent lottery privilege were gone, and by agreement previously made, the college could not apply for another such privilege

under ten years time. It was seventeen years before the debris and overgrowing weeds were cleared away, and a new college building crowned the hill.

Those seventeen years were more than once perilous to the possible future of the college. Classes were carried on in rented quarters in the village, and the immediate enthusiasm shown by the board for rebuilding slowly waned. Again it was the devoted enthusiasm of a few men which restored the spirits of their fellows, though moments of optimism in the board and faculty were few and far between.

Immediately after the fire, college classes were held in the large brick building on the waterfront, known as the old customs house. Later they were moved to a building located where the elementary school now stands. There they remained until the rebuilding of the college was begun with the erection of Middle Hall in 1844-45.

They were dark days, that decade of struggle. At one time the faculty was reduced to one man—a president without assistants! That man, however, is the one to whom honor is due for the rehabilitation which the college achieved, and it is fitting that his name is inscribed on the cornerstone of Middle Hall—the oldest surviving memorial of the early days of the college.

This man was Richard Williamson Ringgold, who assumed the leadership of the administration on March 19, 1832, and guided it for 22 years. Things were already beginning to stir when Mr. Ringgold came to the helm. Vacancies on the board were filled with the appointment of prominent men.

Sporadic attempts were made at refinancing the rebuilding of the college. But there were many problems to be settled. Should the college be rebuilt on the same site? Or should the site be abandoned, the brick and other property sold, including much rubbish from the fire? Should the building be erected on "College Hill" or on the Free School Lot (where the Kent School had been before 1782)? Years dragged on, with plans either not made concerning rebuilding or not executed. Meanwhile, the work of the college continued in rented quarters of the town, for which the board, in 1838-1839, was paying \$80 annual rental. In 1843 it was finally decided to build upon College Hill and things then moved rapidly.

Mr. Elijah Reynolds, of Port Deposit, was hired as builder and architect. By spring the site was cleared and the foundations of the present Middle Hall were laid. The cornerstone was placed with great ceremony on May 4, 1844. The *Kent News* of the week described it as follows:

On Saturday, May 4, 1844, a large assemblage of people convened and moved in procession from the court-house yard to College Hill in the following order:

Citizens two and two. Students two and two. President and professors. Register of wills and clerk of county. Justice of the orphans' court. Members of the bar. Judges of the county court. Alumni. The reverend clergy. Architect of the building. Visitors and governors of the college. Building committee.

On arriving at the Hill the visitors, faculty, and clergy occupied the platform erected for the purpose. The entire space within the exterior basement walls was provided with seats for ladies; the gentlemen were arranged around the building. Various articles, the charter of the college, the names of the visitors and governors, and of the faculty, sundry newspapers of the day, and a specimen of the several kinds of the national coin

were then placed in a neat zinc box, which was placed in the cornerstone and covered by the marble slab which protects it. The cornerstone was then laid with impressive ceremonies, Hon. E. F. Chambers performing the duty at this time which was performed for the original college by his excellency, Governor Paca. The stone is of white marble and bears the following inscription:

Founded in 1782
Destroyed by fire in 1827
Rebuilt in 1844

The president, Richard W. Ringgold, then delivered an address, in which he reread the history of the college and passed a high and merited eulogium upon the patriotic, intellectual, and moral character of the original founders and patrons of the college, and especially upon the noble-hearted energy and generous Christian devotion of the Rev. Dr. Wm. Smith.

The exercises were closed with prayer by Bishop William R. Whittingham, Protestant Episcopal Bishop of Maryland.

A few months more in rented quarters, and on January 1, 1845, the college moved back to the heights from which it had been 17 years absent, and the lamp of learning shone again from the spot on which William Smith had planted it 63 years before.

And then, on Washington's birthday of that year, February 22, 1845, the students celebrated in a fashion peculiar to the time, described by a member of the freshman class, Mr. Ebenezer Perkins, who graduated in 1849, the son of the young man who as a student under William Smith, had delivered one of the French orations at the laying of the cornerstone of the original building by Governor Paca in 1781:

On the 22nd of February following, the college was beautifully illuminated with wax candles; and from Mr. Thomas S. Wickes, who was a student at the college at the same time, we learn more particularly, that in the windows of the observatory the lights were so arranged as to form 1732, the year of Washington's birth. In the next story, the windows being too small for much display in arrangement, the lights formed a band of light across the front. In the next row of windows the letters "C L I O" were tastefully arranged, while on the first floor the windows were decorated with jets of light, in various mathematical figures. The scene was one of surpassing beauty.

In the annals of the college, special honor must be accorded to the three men who guided the destinies of the college through these troubled waters: Honorable Ezekiel Forman Chambers, Chairman of the Board; James B. Ricaud, Secretary of the Board; and Richard W. Ringgold, Principal of the College.

Ten years later, in 1854, East and West Halls were added. With Middle Hall they constituted for some time the college's three buildings.

The intellectual vitality of the College during these early years is attested to by the type of men it produced. Robert Wright, of the original Kent County School, was elected governor of Maryland in 1801 while he was serving in the United States Senate. Thomas Ward Veazy, of the class of 1795, became governor of the state also. William Murray Stone, 1799, became a famed

clergyman, the third Protestant Episcopal Bishop of Maryland, and from the class of 1805 came John Emory, who was instrumental in the organization or refounding of Dickinson College, Wesleyan University, and New York University and who, in 1832, became the tenth Methodist bishop. Virginia's oldest college, the College of William and Mary, had as its eleventh president William Holland Wilmer, a Washington graduate of 1802.

In 1823 graduated Samuel M. Harrington, a brilliant jurist, who was Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Delaware at the age of 27. A classmate of Bishop Emory in 1805 was Ezekiel Forman Chambers, who became a United States Senator, Chief Judge of the Second Judicial Circuit, and received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Yale University. For a quarter of a century he was chairman of the Visitors and Governors of the college, during the period of the rebuilding.

The outbreak of the Civil War found the college in a period of comparative prosperity, which was sadly undermined by the years of the war and the conditions following after. A low state had been reached by 1873 when the Board of Visitors and Governors hopefully appointed Professor William J. Rivers of the University of South Carolina as principal. Improvement followed in the instructional end, but enrollment increased very little. Scholarship students made up a large portion of the student body. In his report to the board in February, 1880, President Rivers cited the necessity of securing increased aid from the state. He stated he was overburdened with teaching duties, but was doing his best to increase enrollment. He admitted, however, that he was discouraged after six years of effort. Rivers remained until 1887. In his fourteen years he did much to raise the standards of the college and the moral tone of the students.⁶ But, unfortunately, as the college completed its first century of operation it was still struggling under great handicaps. Valuable leaseholds had been sold for absurdly small amounts and material resources were at a low ebb.

Life at Washington College in the late 1880s has been vividly described by Dr. James Roy Micou, vice president emeritus, in 1934.⁷ Dr. Micou came to Washington College in 1887. He found that the college had "about thirty students, three buildings, and three teachers." Resident students lived in West Hall, the first floor of which was used for an auditorium. Middle Hall had four rooms on each of its three floors. All rooms were allotted to the stewardess except three which were used for the physics and chemistry laboratories and as a library. President Rivers lived in half of East Hall and Dr. Micou and his family in the other half. The baseball and football fields were on the lower campus in front of the present library.

The turning point in the college's fortunes came with the renewal of interest in the college by the state, beginning about 1890. A system of state scholarships was inaugurated, which in a somewhat altered form still continues, and provides education for (at present) two young men from each Eastern Shore County, and one from each Western Shore County and the legislative districts of the City of Baltimore.

The leadership of Dr. Charles W. Reid, president, 1889-1903, was responsible for the extension of state support. Under his efficient administration the enrollment had increased nearly one hundred per cent in his first two years at the helm. Then, under date of September 16, 1891, he addressed the following communication to the board, which because of its historical importance, is quoted in full:⁸

I would respectfully suggest that young women be admitted to the college as day students on the same terms as young men. My reasons for this suggestion are:

1. There are a number of young women ready to enter at once. This number can be probably increased to ten or twelve.
2. The faculty are unanimously in favor of it.
3. It will materially increase the resources of the college without increasing the expenditures.
4. There will be no risk in it, as it can be discontinued in a year, if not a success. Those who are doubtful about it can judge for themselves, by seeing the experiment tried.
5. It will be a great financial advantage for those who have daughters to educate.
6. It will increase the friends of the college.
7. It will be the greatest help in improving the moral tone of the college.

The story is related by Dr. J. S. William Jones:

The Board took favorable action, adopting the following resolution: "Resolved, that females be admitted to the classes and lectures of Washington College as day students, and the principal in conjunction with the president is requested to make proper provision for their accommodation." To avoid confusion in the mind of the reader, it may be necessary at this point to state by way of explanation that up to the time of amending the original charter in 1922, the chairman of the board was the president of the college and the head of the faculty, the principal.

Dr. Reid, on August 12, 1895, made a strong plea to the board for a ladies' dormitory. In support of his plea, he stated that during his canvass of the Eastern Shore for students, he had interviewed five young ladies who would matriculate at the college, provided they could be accommodated; furthermore, he said he was convinced that as many as 25 boarding students would take advantage of the opportunity for a college education, if proper housing conditions were made available. The principal's plea was held under advisement. January 13, 1896, the board approved a bill to be presented to the Legislature, requesting the creation of a Normal Department at Washington College; and later, February 1, 1896, approved a second bill, petitioning the Legislature for an appropriation which would help meet the cost of the erection of a building to house the students of the Normal Department. Both bills were passed. The contract for the erection of the building was awarded to a local firm on July 17, 1896. "Normal Hall," adopted by the board as the name of the new building on August 26, 1896, was completed and ready for occupancy the following April.

Students pursuing a prescribed course for two years, considered equal in point of difficulty to that of the freshman and sophomore years of college, received upon the completion of the course a certificate which permitted the holder to teach, without examination, in the elementary schools of Maryland. The popularity of the Normal Course is attested by the fact that the enrollment of girls increased from 33 in 1896-97 to 74 in 1905-06, and that of this number only a small percentage pursued the regular college course. Up to and including the class of 1911, only 14 women had received the Bachelors' diploma, while 132 had received the normal certificate.

The administration realizing that the college proper was being overshadowed by the Normal Department, discontinued the latter, closed Normal Hall as a girls' dormitory, and accepted girls only as day students.

The number gradually decreased from year to year until 1918-1919, when there were only 8 in attendance. At a meeting of the board, April 9, 1919, the following resolution was adopted: "Resolved, that the board declare its approval to institute a full system of co-education and to request the state to make provision here for the education of women, substantially equal to the provision already being made for the education of men; and we further recommend that a committee of five be appointed to devise and to execute the best means of laying this proposition before the state authorities."

As a result of this resolution, the co-educational program was liberalized so as to include the attendance of boarding students, attendance being made possible by the reopening of Normal Hall again as a girl's dormitory.

Requesting the Legislature to increase the scholarship appropriation so as to make available for girls the same number of scholarships for which provision had been made for boys was deemed inadvisable at a time when the liquidation of the college debt, which had been accumulating for several years, was considered of paramount importance.

A two years' course in home economics was offered to stimulate interest in the college curriculum and to meet the demand for high school teachers in that particular subject. The course, after a trial of a year or two, was found to be impracticable, and was dropped at the close of the year 1922-23.

The increase in enrollment of girls, from 10 in 1920-21 to 78 in 1928-29, made necessary in 1929 the enlarging of Normal Hall, known thereafter as Reid Hall; so named as a memorial to Dr. Reid, since through his efforts coeducation was made possible at Washington College. Remodelled after the style of Mt. Vernon, Reid Hall is an attractive dormitory with housing accommodations for 70 boarders.

The providing of comfortable housing quarters was immediately followed by a noticeable increase in the enrollment of girls.

The yearly average attendance for the years 1930 to 1942 was 104, while 39 was that of the preceding ten years.

The State of Maryland, again recognizing its obligation to the historic Shore college, provided funds during the administration of Dr. James W. Cain (1903-1918) by which East, Middle, and West halls were prepared for use as men's dormitories only, and a large administration and classroom building, William Smith Hall, was erected. Destroyed by fire in 1916, it was immediately rebuilt. In 1912 there was provided also a commodious gymnasium to replace the smaller frame and less adequate one erected previously by the citizens of Chestertown. A modern central steam heating plant was also installed.

Following a short term by Dr. J. S. William Jones as acting president, Dr. Clarence P. Gould became the head of the college in 1919, remaining until 1923. Under Dr. Gould's leadership much progress was made. Attendance increased nearly one hundred and fifty per cent, the college deficit which had accumulated to about \$75,000 was reduced, standards were raised considerably by the modernization of the curriculum and the introduction of pre-law, pre-medical, and commerce courses, and a much more adequate library was provided. Dr. Gould chose as his mission at Washington College the creation of

a cultural center for the Eastern Shore, not only for the professional classes, but for all classes. It was his belief that the college should emphasize practical training, including even agriculture, as well as art and music. Many Eastern Shore problems, felt Dr. Gould, might well be worked out at Washington College. Whereas some of his ideas did not appear to be practical for the college, Dr. Gould was successful in arousing much greater interest on the part of the alumni and others, and aided greatly in paving the way for the better days that were to follow under Dr. Titsworth and Dr. Mead.⁹

It was during Dr. Gould's administration that important legislation was adopted in 1922 by the General Assembly of Maryland which renewed even more strongly the bond between the college and the state. In that year the charter of 1782 was amended to provide for a new method of appointment of the Board of Visitors and Governors. By this change, there are twenty-five members: twelve appointed by the governor of the state, twelve elected by the alumni, and the president of the college elected by these twenty-four. This action by the state followed the serious crisis the college had reached in 1920. On September 11 of that year an Alumni "Get-together Dinner" was held, at which problems of the college were discussed. Alumni interest reached a new high, with Dr. J. S. William Jones, long-time member of the faculty and an alumnus, taking the lead. He was ably supported by such men as Albert D. Mackey, John I. Coulbourn, and Hiram S. Brown. The last-named became the first Chairman of the Board of Visitors and Governors under the new method of appointment and election, a position he has held continuously to this day.

The 1922 session of the Maryland General Assembly raised the annual appropriation to the college from \$35,000 to \$45,000 for the years 1922-1923 and 1923-1924. In addition, a special appropriation of \$30,000 was granted by the state to help the college discharge its debts. An "Alumni Debt Fund" was established which raised slightly over \$40,000.

The choice of Dr. Paul E. Titsworth, Dean of Alfred University of New York, as president, became effective in September, 1923. It was a fortunate selection. A man of indefatigable energy and resourcefulness, Dr. Titsworth joined eagerly those mentioned above and others in the all-out effort to place Washington College on a high plane. An Endowment Fund Campaign was inaugurated which, though not as successful as hoped, helped considerably. The state had promised to contribute \$100,000 to the college if it could raise \$200,000 for an endowment. The latter was not achieved, but Governor Albert C. Ritchie, a real friend of the college, was persuaded eventually that the \$100,000 should be given without condition. Consequently, the college debt was paid off and a small endowment fund created. The remarkable recovery of the college in this five-year period was due to the tireless efforts of President Titsworth, Colonel Hiram S. Brown and the board of which he was chairman, and Dr. J. S. William Jones who kept alumni interest at a high pitch. The co-operation and foresight of Governor Ritchie and members of the General Assembly cannot be overlooked.

Enrollment during this period nearly trebled, the teaching staff was greatly strengthened, physical properties improved, and the College Administration reorganized, especially in the management of its financial affairs.

The state increased the annual appropriation for 1927-1928 to \$60,000 and for the following year an additional \$5,000 was added. The appropriation remained at \$65,000 until 1934 when the State Legislature, due to the depression, cut the amount by 10%, to \$58,500. This was effective for two years. The

sum was raised to \$59,500 for the years ending in 1936 and 1937, and for the next two years reached \$64,500.

Dr. Titsworth's administration saw the college widely advertised for the first time. Enrollment continued to increase and by 1933 when he resigned to accept the presidency of Alfred University, it had reached about 300. Enrollment became stabilized until World War II. The college was accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools in 1926, and became an active member of the American Association of Colleges. The addition of a row of faculty and fraternity houses and the expansion of playing fields, tennis courts, and other necessary and useful equipment came during Dr. Titsworth's regime.

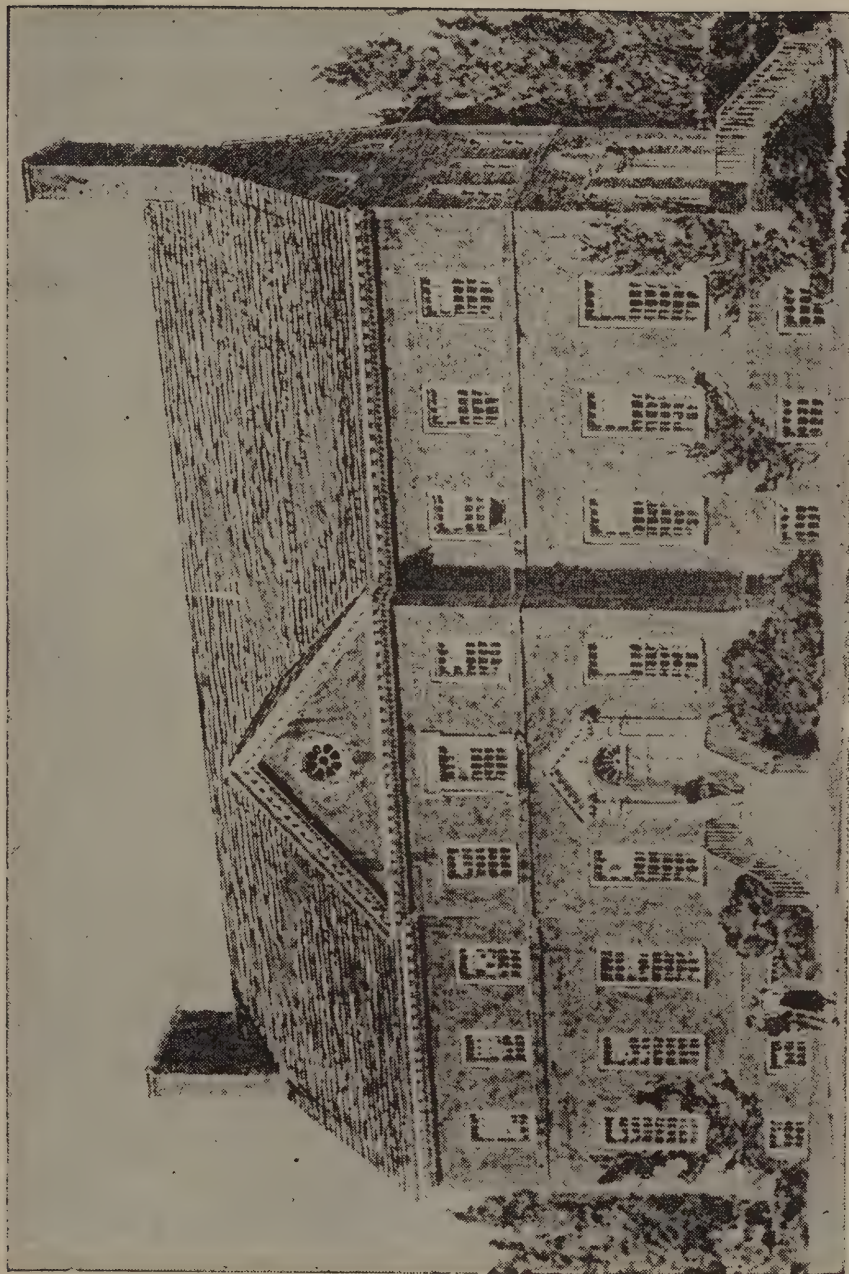
In the early 1930s two events at the college of considerable historic importance were celebrated. In June, 1932, the college celebrated its Sesqui-Centennial, in connection with the George Washington Bi-Centennial. Colorful historical pageantry marked the festival, and the Commencement exercises were featured by addresses by the German Ambassador, Friedrich Wilhelm von Prittwitz and Gaffron, Secretary of the Interior Ray Lyman Wilbur, and Governor Albert C. Ritchie.

The inauguration of Dr. Gilbert W. Mead as nineteenth president of the college, on October 21, 1933, was made historic by the presence of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Governor Ritchie, Hon. Howard W. Jackson, Mayor of Baltimore, and a host of other persons prominent in public and professional life. Before an audience of 15,000 President Mead was inaugurated, President Roosevelt was awarded the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, and with his diploma was given a reproduction of the diploma of the similar degree granted to George Washington in 1794. In concluding his address, President Roosevelt said:

In the years to come, not just through the life of this immediate program, but all my life, I shall continue to watch Washington College, the President, the faculty, its students, its graduates, with a feeling that I am one of them; that I have been very greatly honored in being an alumnus of the College; and I breathe the same prayer that George Washington made to the College nearly a century and a half ago, that the Creator of the Universe will look down on the College and give it his benediction. Let me tell you simply and from the bottom of my heart that I am proud to have come, proud of the honor; and I wish you God speed in the years to come.

Dr. Mead's administration was marked by the expansion of the physical plant of the college, the ground work for much of which had been laid previously. Hodson Hall, opened in October, 1936, houses the social facilities of the students, including a large game and recreation room, and the college dining hall. During the winter of 1939-1940, Dunning Hall and the George A. Bunting Library were opened, the gifts of Dr. H. A. B. Dunning and Dr. George A. Bunting, '92, respectively. Dunning Hall houses the laboratories and lecture rooms of the departments of chemistry, biology, and physics. The library provides adequate reading-room space, book stacks, seminar rooms, a museum-exhibit room, and other facilities.

In 1944, the Ringgold House, one of Maryland's most famous and beautiful mansions in Chestertown, was presented to the college for the president's house by a group of friends headed by Wilbur Ross Hubbard. Several times



(Courtesy of the College)

Bunting Library, Washington College

a year it is opened to the students and faculty for receptions and social functions. It also serves as a place for the entertainment of official college visitors. In 1946 a frame dormitory housing fifty men was erected and in the following year the college secured two frame buildings from a closed Army Air Base. These were remodelled and are used for class-rooms and faculty offices. Athletic facilities have been improved by the grading of the lower athletic field and other material gains have been made. The library has been the recipient of many valuable books, including the collections or parts thereof, of Dr. Mary C. Burchinal, '96, in 1935; of Dr. James Roy Micou, long-time faculty member, in 1939; of Dr. Esther M. Dole, former history professor, in 1946; of former President Charles W. Reid, and others. A library for Reid Hall was made possible through the generosity of Mrs. Frank M. Dick of Cambridge, Maryland, in 1934, who established it in memory of Dr. Elisha Cullen Dick, personal physician to George Washington.

These years were also marked by the improvement and stabilization of the faculty, although World War II temporarily created a serious problem in keeping the staff intact. At the time of Dr. Mead's death in 1949 student enrollment had reached 500, highest in the college's history. The influx of war veterans, including many students who left the class-rooms to fight the war, as well as greater college attendance by high school graduates boosted enrollment. Meanwhile, the college was becoming better known throughout the state and the east.

Just as they had in World War I, Washington College men and women distinguished themselves in World War II. They served in all branches—the Army, Navy, Air Forces, Marines, WACS, WAVES, as well as the Royal Canadian Air Force, Woman's Ferry Pilot Service, and the Royal Canadian Navy. A high percentage of the 727 men and women of the College who served were officers, but whether officers or enlisted personnel, they were cited for many awards signifying valor, courage, and jobs well done. Twenty-seven who claimed Washington College as *Alma Mater* made the supreme sacrifice.¹⁰ At the great post-war reunion during Home-Coming weekend in October, 1946, proper memorial services were conducted to honor them. In addition, a bronze tablet, bearing the names of the College's war dead, was erected in William Smith Hall. It was the gift of Alpha Psi Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa, the campus national honorary leadership fraternity.

Washington College has supplemented its academic training with a well-rounded program of extra-curricular activities, including intercollegiate and intramural athletics, publications, forensics, dramatics, and social and religious organizations. Key figure in the athletic history of the college was J. Thomas Kibler, for many years Athletic Director and Coach of football, basketball, and baseball. His basketball and baseball teams were always highly regarded and won numerous championships. Football has been an annual problem due to the refusal to compete with commercialization practises of many schools. However, in the 1930s under George Ekaitis, and more recently in 1949, the college turned out better than average teams. Within the past year Washington College also fielded a divisional champion in baseball, a Mason-Dixon champion in track, a lacrosse team that lost its first two games and then won twelve straight, a soccer team that split even, a cross-country team that won all of its dual meets, and a fair tennis team. At this writing, basketball, coached by Athletic Director Edward L. Athey, is making a fine come-back after several lean years.

The death of Dr. Mead in the spring of 1949 represented the passing of an

era. More than any other leader of the College since its first president, he was a nationally known educator. With practical experience as a public school teacher, principal, and supervisor in his native state of Pennsylvania, and as college professor and dean at Columbia University and Birmingham-Southern College, he was a man of vigor and a wide range of interests. Included among high honors accorded him was membership on the American Council of Education and the chairmanship of the National Interfraternity Council. He brought national fraternities and sororities, social and honorary, to the campus. His administration, the second longest in the history of the College, witnessed the final stages of the Great Depression as well as the years of World War II. That Washington College today is stronger than ever must be credited partly to the untiring efforts of Dr. Mead. He lived long enough to see something of a return to normalcy, with the passing of the peak of veteran enrollment and a return to relative stability insofar as faculty and student body were concerned. Dr. Mead continued the practice of recognizing, with honorary degrees, men who have gained prominence in many walks of life. Included have been President Roosevelt in 1933, President Truman in 1946, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1942, and governors, United States Senators and Representatives, scientists, educators, ministers, military leaders, and others.

While Washington College awaits announcement of its new President, Dr. Frederick G. Livingood, Dean of the College, ably serves as Acting President. He presided at Commencement Exercises in June, 1949, at which the largest class in the history of the College—one hundred and six members—was graduated. Speaker for the occasion was Federal Judge T. Alan Goldsborough, '89, long-time Representative in Congress from the Eastern Shore. Among distinguished visitors at this Commencement was Dr. Edward J. Clarke, Pocomoke City (Maryland) editor, former professor at Washington College and Superintendent of Kent County Schools. Dr. Clarke was not a stranger at Washington College Commencements, having attended them over a period of sixty-two years.

The outlook for Washington College, as this is written, is bright. The General Assembly, in 1949, restored its annual appropriation to \$65,000, a figure received before the cut of depression years. At the June, 1949, meeting of the Board of Visitors and Governors, authorization was given for the construction of a dormitory unit to be known as "Somerset House."¹¹ This was made possible largely through the continued generosity of the Hodson Trust, created by the late Clarence Hodson, a native of Somerset County and a frequent benefactor to the College during his lifetime. The Board also approved the construction of the Garrett Foxwell dormitory, made possible by a gift left to the College by the late Senator Foxwell. This building was ready for occupancy in September, 1949, and was dedicated at Home Coming in November. The cornerstone of "Somerset House" was laid on the same day.

The Board of Visitors and Governors at this same meeting reelected Colonel Hiram S. Brown as chairman. He thus commenced his twenty-eighth year as Chairman of the Board. As he celebrated his twenty-fifth anniversary in this capacity in June, 1947, a valuable gift was presented to him by the Alumni Association in recognition of his years of leadership and his services to the College.

Members of the Administration, faculty, and staff of the College with long and valuable service to their credit include, in addition to Dr. Livingood, the following: Dr. William R. Howell, Professor of Economics and Sociology and

former Graduate Manager of Athletics and Registrar; Dr. Lawrence Ford of the Modern Languages Department; Miss Mattie R. Whitaker, currently Registrar and the “heart” of Washington College; Professor Frederick W. Dumschott, Business Manager and former Graduate Manager of Athletics; Dean of Women Amanda T. Bradley; Miss Doris T. Bell, Director of Women’s Physical Education; Miss Louise B. Russell, instructor in Music; Miss Kate H. Howard, Secretary to the President; and Miss Minnie T. Willson, Matron of Reid Hall, and beloved by every student in her twenty years of service. Each of these has served the College fifteen or more years.

The outstanding feature of Washington College is its remarkable vitality and the large number of prominent men it has furnished to the state and nation. It was created at a time when life in the colonies was extremely hard. It was enlarged into a college when the country was in a most depressed condition. It has had periods of low fortunes, but it has survived and is now prospering because it fills a real need. The institution has conquered the vicissitudes of nearly a century and three quarters. As the years rush forward, with whatever they may bring, Washington College, a veteran of wars, depressions, and of prosperity will meet what comes. Meanwhile, it will help to shape a better world by training intelligent citizens who must solve the problems of the future.¹¹

THE PRESIDENTS OF WASHINGTON COLLEGE

1782-1789	William Smith, D.D. (Oxford, Aberdeen, Dublin)
1789-1805	Colin Ferguson, A.M., D.D.
1813-1815	Hugh McGuire
1816-1817	Joab G. Cooper, A.M.
1817-1818	Gerard E. Stack, A.M.
1818-1823	Francis Waters, D.D.
1823-1829	Timothy Clowes, A.M., LL.D.
1829-1832	Peter Clark, A.M.
1832-1854	Richard W. Ringgold, A.M.
1854-1860	Francis Waters, D.D.
1860-1867	Andrew J. Sutton, A.M.
1867-1873	Robert C. Berkeley, A.M.
1873-1887	William J. Rivers, A.M.
1887-1889	Thomas N. Williams, A.M.
1889-1903	Charles W. Reid, A.M., Ph.D.
1903-1918	James W. Cain, LL.D.
1918-1919	J. S. William Jones, Sc.D., Litt.D. (Acting)
1919-1923	Clarence P. Gould, Ph.D.
1923-1933	Paul E. Titsworth, Ph.D., LL.D.
1933-1949	Gilbert W. Mead, A.M., Litt.D., LL.D.
1949-	Frederick G. Livingood, Ed. M., Ed.D., LL.D. (Acting)

NOTES, CHAPTER XXXII

1. *Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland, 1782*, Chapter VIII.

2. *Maryland Gazette*, June 11, 1807. Reprinted in the *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XLII, No. 3 (September, 1947), p. 169. Accounts vary as to Ferguson’s birth-date. Dr. Peregrine Wroth, class of 1803, Washington College, in his “Memoir of Colin Ferguson,” *Washington College Bulletin*, XIII, Numbers 1-2 (Jan.-Feb., 1935),

pp. 4-5, puts his birth at Dec. 8, 1751, and his death "in the fifty-sixth year of his age" on March 10, 1805. Dr. Wroth was a former student of Dr. Ferguson and later served as Chemistry Professor and still later as a member of the Board.

3. Duke De La Rochefoucault Liancourt, *Travels Through the United States of America, the Country of the Iroquois, and Upper Canada, in the Years 1795, 1796, and 1797* (London, 1800), III, pp. 348-350.

4. This phase of the College's history was the subject of Dr. Gilbert W. Mead's address at the Mid-Winter Convocation on February 24, 1949. This address was partially reported in the *Washington Elm*, Feb. 25, 1949, and in local newspapers.

5. For this period see Dr. Gilbert W. Mead, "A Chapter of Washington College History: An Address Delivered at the Washington's Birthday Convocation February 22, 1934," in *Washington College Bulletin*, XII, Nos. 3-4 (May, 1934). This is a 7-page article of which pp. 3-5 are reproduced here virtually intact.

6. *Washington College: Memoranda by the Principal*. These are two manuscript notebooks with a detailed record of President Rivers' years as President. They are in the possession of Washington College, and cover the years 1873-1887.

7. *Washington Elm*, November 24, 1934; reprinted in *The (Chestertown) Enterprise*, November 28, 1934. Two other articles, written by Allan Brougham, a Senior, appeared in the *Elm* of December 8 and December 15, 1934. They were based upon interviews with Dr. Micou.

8. For a discussion of this in full see the article by Dr. J. S. William Jones, "Coeducation at Washington College," in *The Washington College Bulletin*, XX, No. 4 (April 1942), pp. 3-8.

9. See the review of Dr. Gould's administration in the *Washington College Bulletin* (Commencement Number), III, No. 2 (August 20, 1923), pp. 3-5.

10. It is possible that these figures will be changed when all records are available.

11. Principal sources used in addition to those already cited include the MSS Minutes of the Board of Visitors and Governors, 1816-1844 (in possession of the College); L. Wethered Barroll, "Washington College, 1783," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, VI (1911), pp. 164-179; Rowland Watts, "Washington College (1782-1894)" in Bernard C. Steiner, *History of Education in Maryland* (Washington, Government Printing Office, 1894), pp. 71-95; William Smith, D. D., *An Account of Washington College in the State of Maryland* (Philadelphia, 1784).

CHAPTER XXXIII

The Establishment of Maryland State College

By *W. A. Low**

I. FOREWORD

The founding of Maryland State College is a small but related mosaic in the vast, complex pattern that shaped American life in the generation following the close of the Civil War. The author has been aware of this relationship, and has attempted, sometimes by inference, to give some perspective to a subject that otherwise would be academic trivia. The founding of the school, largely a Methodist enterprise, is definitely related to local and national efforts to educate the Negro during the period of post-war Reconstruction.

Unfortunately, a great difficulty encountered in the preparation of this paper, which has been abstracted from a more comprehensive manuscript now in preparation, has been the woeful lack of materials that, for the most part, never existed or have been destroyed. For example, early records kept by the school are not extant; and only a few other printed sources, excluding newspapers and catalogues, are available. The best printed material available includes such few publications by Methodists as the Minutes of the Delaware Conference and the Annual Reports of the Freedmen's Society. Thus, it has been necessary to rely upon information obtained from questionnaires, interviews and letters.

Thus, the author is grateful to many persons who have given much valuable assistance. The list is long and due acknowledgment will be made in the larger manuscript now in preparation. For this paper, however, acknowledgment is made to the following former students:

Dr. Dennis Anderson Bethea
Mrs. Emma Boyer
Mrs. Lilly Waters Bunday
Mr. and Mrs. James I. Dennis
Mr. Stephen H. Dix
Dr. Lillian Singleton Dove
Rev. Hampton T. Johnson

Mr. Joseph P. Joynes
Mrs. Bessie Maddox Lane
Mrs. Anna H. Maddox
Mrs. Lyda G. Miles
Rev. John H. Nutter
Mrs. Selena Gertrude Nutter
Mrs. Roxie P. Pinkett

* Professor of History at Maryland State College, Princess Anne, Md.; born in 1917 at Greenville, Mississippi; educated in the public schools of St. Louis, Missouri, and received his B.A. degree at Lincoln University in Missouri and his M.A. and Ph.D. at the University of Iowa. His doctoral dissertation was entitled "Virginia in the Critical Period, 1783-1787;" Dr. Low has taught in the public schools of St. Louis; at the Agricultural and Technical College of Greensboro, N. C., and at Florida A & M College. He is the author of *The Negro in North Carolina: A Demographic and Social Survey* (Washington, Howard University Press, 1949). He was a member of the Armed Forces from 1942 to 1946, serving as an Officer in the Air Corps.

Mrs. Daisy Bailey Jones
Mrs. Hattie H. Jones
Mr. Horatio Jones

Miss Lillian J. Sterling
Mrs. Hattie D. White

The author likewise thanks Dr. Hermon F. Wilson for his helpful and valuable assistance.

Princess Anne, located on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, was a quiet, rustic village of a few hundred souls in 1886. Its citizens, provincial but proud, showed little interest or ambition for change; many were openly satisfied with their way of life which, often by way of gossip, they remembered and admired as having been good enough for their ancestors. There was an obvious contentment with this way of life which was more reminiscent of the eighteenth than of the nineteenth century; for Princess Anne was no pioneer community in 1886. Its citizens regarded newcomers—or new ideas—with a curious skepticism; they reserved their traditional hospitality for old friends and families.

Indeed, the social consciousness of the community, among whites and Negroes, was permeated with a strong regard for class and family. Genealogy held a high place in the hierarchy of class stratification, for many of the residents of the community still retained names strongly reminiscent of the history of the town and county, such as Waters, Dennis, Dashiell, Maddox, and Nutter. Thus, there was a remarkable unity among the leading citizens and a willingness to prevent any disturbance that threatened the even tenor of life. Resentment was likely to result when an "outsider" made unfavorable criticism or when an old resident scoffed at the *mores*.

A visitor to Princess Anne in 1886 may have walked along unpaved streets that were lined, for the most part, with majestic trees. In fair weather the streets were dusty and played upon by barefooted children. During the rainy season, which extended into the winter months, a visitor was likely to encounter puddles of water here and there. As in many parts of the nation, Princess Anne had no central water or sewage system, no street lights, no horseless carriages. Yet, the visitor may have observed, as he walked north up the main street, that large ships, such as three masted schooners, were docked on the town's only river—the Manokin.¹

Along the unpaved streets the visitor may have seen several well-known buildings which gave the citizens of this village, a county seat since 1733, a sense of history and importance. For example, there was the Washington Hotel, originally erected as a colonial inn in 1744; Teackle Mansion, originally built in 1801, the Presbyterian Church, on the north bank of the Manokin River, re-built in 1765, the year of the passage of the detested Stamp Act by the British Parliament. Furthermore, there were other buildings of importance such as the County Court House and the Railroad Station.²

About one-half mile east of the Court House, on an unpaved county road, there was yet another old building that was well-known to the citizens of Princess Anne. It was called "Olney" and had been occupied or owned by some of the leading townspeople since its completion in 1798 by Ezekiel Haynie, a physician and surgeon who had served in the Continental Army.³

The use of Olney during the summer of 1886 caused some consternation among the old citizens, because for the first time in the history of town or County—or indeed of the Eastern Shore—an old landmark had passed into the hands of Negroes for purposes of "higher" education. The use of Olney for such purposes was a new experience in an old community, for the idea of any formal education

of the newly freed Negro—or indeed of public education in general—was largely a post-Civil War development for both Maryland and the South.

The idea of educating the Negro, who was not yet a generation removed from the status of chattel slavery, was not accepted readily by whites of the Eastern Shore—or of the South.⁴ The longest period of the history of Princess Anne had known the slave tradition, and since Negroes had been emancipated from chattel slavery only twenty years before the school opened, the pattern of Negro-white relations was strongly influenced by the slave tradition. Benign paternalism was the reward for “good Negroes,” while stern reprimand and rebuke came for Negroes who did not “know their place.” Princess Anne in 1886 was thoroughly Southern in its sentiment and outlook. Thus it is not surprising that the transfer of Olney to Negroes in August of 1886 was looked upon with some misgivings and resentment.

The use of Olney for Negro education, however, survived many problems, local and national, that confronted the Negro in his quest to obtain in freedom what he had been denied in slavery—education. The building remained the chief structure for the “higher” education of the Negro on the Eastern Shore. It was the chief building on the campus for a school that has been known as the Delaware Conference Academy, Eastern Branch of the University of Maryland, Princess Anne Academy, and Princess Anne College. The founding of Maryland State College, known as Princess Anne College as late as 1948, is traceable to the acquisition and early development of a school for Negroes first held in Olney in September of 1886.

2. THE FOUNDING

The establishment of this school for Negroes in the old home of Olney was predominately a Methodist enterprise. Though oftentimes obscured by the larger efforts of Methodists in the area of Negro education, the idea and promotion of a “higher” school for Negroes on the Eastern Shore came through Methodists, acting collectively or individually, who had long recognized the need for education of the Negro in a period when public education in the State of Maryland—and in the South—was in its infancy. Specifically, the opening of the school in the town of Princess Anne may be traced to the influence of the following: (1) The Centenary Biblical Institute which was established by the Freedmen’s Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, (2) The Delaware Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, (3) the individual efforts of Joseph R. Waters and John A. B. Wilson, both Methodist ministers of the Eastern Shore. The rôle that each played was significant. It cannot be said, however, that any single group or persons were solely responsible for the founding of the school that later became Maryland State College.

The Centenary Biblical Institute—The influence of Methodism upon Negro education is impressive. Within a few years after the close of the Civil War, the Methodist Episcopal Church, the largest of Methodist groups, had aided in the introduction of the public school in the South, and had pioneered in the establishment of schools for Negroes through the vigilant and energetic Freedmen’s Aid Society. By 1869, four years after the surrender of Lee, the Methodist Church had appropriated and raised approximately \$165,000 for Negroes; had set up sixty schools in the South, embracing the states of Alabama, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.⁵ Schools of

"higher" learning for Negroes by 1869 included Central Tennessee College, Clark University (Georgia), Huntsville College (Alabama), Claflin College (South Carolina), and Shaw University (Holly Springs, Mississippi). Moreover, during fifteen years following its founding, the Freedmen's Aid Society maintained one hundred teachers, taught 750,000 pupils, spent more than one million dollars on Negro education.⁶ As in the case of support from the Federal Freedmen's Bureau and private philanthropy, the bulk of the funds of the Freedmen's Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church went to schools in the lower South, where social and population factors were greatest. Maryland's share was relatively small.⁷

The Methodists did establish one school of "higher" learning for Negroes in Maryland, however. The idea for this school crystallized on Christmas Eve of 1866 when, at an informal conference, a board of trustees, headed by Levi Scott, a bishop, was appointed to carry out the idea with an appropriation of \$5,000 from the Missionary Society of the Church. The school was named the Centenary Biblical Institute.⁷ It was not until 1872, five years after a charter had been granted by the Superior Court of Baltimore, that the school moved into its own building for regular classes at 44 Saratoga Street in downtown Baltimore.

Enrollment at the Institute increased rapidly during the first decade, and the building on Saratoga Street became chronically overcrowded. This condition however, was somewhat relieved with the completion and occupation of a new building in 1881 at Fulton and Edmundson streets. This building was obtained largely through the efforts of John F. Goucher, founder of a white college in Baltimore.⁸ The Institute proudly advertised itself and its new building:⁹

A BEAUTIFUL AND COMMODIOUS BUILDING
A COMPETENT FACULTY SIX IN NUMBER
THREE DEPARTMENTS
THEOLOGICAL NORMAL PREPARATORY

Within four years after its completion, the new building at the corner of Fulton and Edmonson also became overcrowded, and in 1885 the authorities regretfully refused the admission of some sixty applications because of overcrowded conditions.¹⁰ In order to relieve this condition, the Board of Trustees reopened the old building on Saratoga Street. The president of the Institute, W. Maslin Frysinger, reported the need for more room, and suggested that to relieve the congestion in the Preparatory Department that a branch school be set up in the Washington and Delaware Conferences, the two main contributing conferences to the Institute.¹¹ Frysinger also reported that such branch schools were "among the possibilities of the near future."

Thus, the Trustees of the Centenary Biblical Institute had probably considered the matter of relieving heavy enrollment in Baltimore by setting up a school in the Delaware Conference, whose jurisdiction embraced in part the Eastern Shore of Maryland. John H. Nutter, a graduate of the Institute, and a member of the Delaware Conference in 1886, stated rather positively that the idea for the establishment of a school in Princess Anne came from the Board of Trustees of the Institute.¹² However, the records of the Institute have not been preserved, and thus it is not known whether definite measures were taken to implement the suggestion made by Frysinger. Moreover, the Minutes of the Delaware Conference and the Annual Reports of the Freedmen's Aid Society are silent about the establishment of a school anywhere in the jurisdiction of the Delaware Conference

during the years 1885-1887, when a school was being set up in Princess Anne. It is highly probable that the idea of setting up a branch school of the Institute somewhere on the Eastern Shore was considered by the authorities of the Centenary Biblical Institute.

Apparently, the Board of Trustees saw, just as did some members of the Delaware Conference, that there was a need for another school of "higher" subjects in Maryland. That the idea was indigenous with the Institute, or that Princess Anne was considered as a site, cannot be shown conclusively.

The Delaware Conference—The Delaware Conference grew in size in the generation following the close of the Civil War. It embraced congregations of Negro Methodists along the Eastern Coast from New York to the southern end of the Del-Mar-Va Peninsula. Except the ministry, the Conference, following a precedent of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, regarded the education of the Negro as its principal objective.

The machinery for carrying out work in education was elaborate and was frequently duplicated. Yet, the Conference supported the cause of education to the limits of its financial resources.

There were several committees on education that served as steering agencies for educational policies, as boosters in raising funds—which was not by any means the least important function—and as liaison between the Conference and the Centenary Biblical Institute. One such educational agency of the Conference—a similar body found in other Methodist Conferences—was the Educational Society, whose chief concern, as shown in the second provision of its Constitution, was frankly the procurement of money for Freedmen's Aid.¹³ This agency collected and disbursed all funds relative to Freedmen's Aid. Another agency of the Conference was the Standing Committee on Education, one of the several regular committees on which members were rotated at every conference. It appears that its functions were not clearly defined; its services were token.

Other agencies for education were the Freedmen's Aid Committee, Visiting Committee to the Centenary Biblical Institute, Endowment Committee, and Committee on Female College. The last died stillborn when women were permitted to attend "higher" schools supported by the Methodist Church. The remaining agencies, enjoying more permanency, were in existence prior to the establishment of the school in Princess Anne and continued many years thereafter. However, shortly after the school on the Shore made its appearance, the Conference set up a Committee on the Delaware Conference Academy, and later, the Advisory Board of Princess Anne Academy.

There is no written evidence in the Minutes of the Conference to show that the idea of the school began in the official proceedings of the Conference, or in meetings of its committees. The Minutes, which were carefully written and published, are silent on any initial move or effort to set up a school at Princess Anne. Reference to setting up a school is not found anywhere in the Minutes of the Conference held May 6-11, 1886 at the Bainbridge Street Church in Philadelphia. This conference was held only four months before the school opened in Princess Anne.

The only reference to the setting up of a school anywhere in the Conference is found in a committee report printed in the minutes of 1886. A Committee on Female College made its report in behalf of education for women, a fact that coincides with the struggle of women for equal rights in education on a nationwide level. The Committee made its position clear:¹⁴

We, the Committee on Female College within the bounds of the Delaware Conference, beg leave to submit the following report:

We were appointed by Bishop Foster to consider the necessity of founding such an institution, and to look out for a place, site, etc.

We have had, during the Conference year, two offer [*sic*] to locate. One at Princess Anne, Somerset County, and the other at Pocomoke City, Worcester County.

The Committee had one meeting at Dover, Delaware. At this meeting, Princess Anne was dropped from consideration, but Pocomoke City was still held on to, because of the strong inducements of aid held out by the citizens of that place, and of that section of the State of Maryland. But we think such an Institution should be located in or near some of our large centers of population, or in some place easy of access.

The opinion of the Committee is that such an Institution is a necessity within the bounds of the Conference. When we take into consideration the fact that the Centenary Biblical Institute was founded solely for the education of young men as preachers and teachers, and that it provides no accommodation for females, we see the need of such an Institution.

Notwithstanding the Female College contemplated, only exists in name and on paper as yet, we trust it will not be an Utopian idea, but that our best hopes will be realized, and that this Conference will give ample consideration to the matter, and take such steps as will lead to the ultimate success of the object in view.

I. H. White,
W. J. Parker,
W. H. Coffey,
George H. Washington.

J. Hudson Riddick, *Chairman*,
Hooper Jolley, *Secretary*,
W. C. Dickerson,
A. R. Shockley,

Indeed, the "Female College" never advanced beyond the name and paper stage. Nothing ever materialized from the idea. Furthermore, the reference to setting up a "female" school in Princess Anne was abandoned by the Committee itself, which apparently failed to agree on any specific location for their "paper" school. The "Female College" idea was no doubt discussed at the Conference, and left its echoes in tradition and hearsay. It is difficult to conclude, however, that the school which opened four months after the above report, was intended to be a school for girls. Furthermore, it appears that the Delaware Conference, acting as an official body, despite its concern with Negro education, knew nothing of the course of events that led to the initial opening of the school that later bore its name. John H. Nutter, who at the time of this writing, had "attended Conference every year without being absent or tardy for sixty-one years," recalled that the question of setting up a school at Princess Anne did not originate with the Delaware Conference.¹⁵ On the other hand, there is no doubt that the Conference promoted and supported, with great effort, the school once it had opened its doors in Princess Anne.

Individual Efforts—It has been stated that Joseph Robert Waters was the founder of the school for Negroes first held in the old Olney home, that his idea was responsible for the beginning of the school.¹⁶ There is much to be said for this point of view, for in the light of history Waters stands out as one of the first figures in the early days of the school, one whose interest in Negro education bordered on the margin of passion. Yet, it is difficult to conclude, upon

examination of available evidence, that Waters was solely responsible for the idea and promotion of the school at Princess Anne.

Waters was a product of the Eastern Shore of Maryland. He was born May 8, 1856—four years before Lincoln's inaugural—in the village of Fairmount, Maryland, not more than fifteen miles from the site of Olney. Tradition has it that Waters was something of a self-made man; that his early education was almost wholly obtained from a white tutor, a judge and lawyer of Snow Hill, Maryland.¹⁷ No doubt as a boy, Waters attended such schools as the area provided for Negroes and experienced the hardships that confronted most Negro children who grew up in the atmosphere of Civil War Reconstruction.

Waters became a member of the Delaware Conference at the age of twenty-two and served actively and conscientiously with the Conference for sixty-three years; for an additional four years of his life, though inactive, his name appeared on the Conference roster.¹⁸ Even in his ninetieth year he was still engaged in some pastoral duties.¹⁹

John Alfred Banum Wilson was eight years older than Waters. He was born in Milton, Delaware on September 14, 1848—exactly one year after General Winfield Scott made his triumphal entry into Mexico City at the close of the Mexican War. He attended grade school in Milton but as a boy of twelve went to sea with his father, who was a captain. At the age of nineteen he had learned enough about seamanship to become a first mate.²⁰ While at sea, Wilson likewise “educated himself with a small library that he carried in his sea chest;” he studied Greek and Latin in the ships’ forecabin in order to fill up the wide gaps in his formal education.²¹ He became a member of the Wilmington (Delaware) Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1871 and distinguished himself as an outstanding lecturer, minister, and temperance worker.

There is evidence that Wilson was a progressive in the matter of Negro-white relations. Tradition has it that many Negroes held Wilson in high esteem, and, conversely, many whites deplored his friendliness towards Negroes. John H. Nutter, a Negro minister of the Delaware Conference, recalled that Wilson was a “Christian man and friend of the colored people.”²² On the other hand, while the Wilsons lived in Princess Anne, the whites of the community practically ostracized them because of Wilson’s friendly attitude towards Negroes, for friendship of whites with Negroes was defined by the historic pattern of racial segregation and discrimination based upon the ethics of white superiority. The social code, for example, made it strong taboo for a white to shake hands with a Negro, to eat with him, or to give him such titles of courtesy and respect as “Mister.” It is highly probable that Wilson was capable of ignoring such deep-seated prejudices.²³

Waters and Wilson were undoubtedly the two chief figures in the founding of the school in Princess Anne. It cannot be said, however, that the idea of such a school was original with either, for conditions of Negro education during the period, and on the Eastern Shore in particular, pointed to the necessity of a school of “higher” subjects for Negroes. Nevertheless, both Waters and Wilson were well prepared and willing to meet the challenge; and both wholeheartedly sponsored the promotion of the idea of a school in Princess Anne.

It is not definitely known, but is probable that Waters, a native of Somerset County, and a frequent visitor to Princess Anne, first came to know Wilson during the early 1880s when Wilson was Presiding Elder of the Salisbury district (1882-1886). The relations between these two men, despite the social implications of difference of color, were no doubt cordial since it appears that both men had

much in common—interest in the cause of Methodism, temperance, and education. Their relationship was significant in the location and promotion of the school in Princess Anne.

At some time during the summer of 1886, Waters and Wilson were in agreement that a school should be set up in the vicinity of Princess Anne. Perhaps it was Waters who first mentioned the question of a site to Wilson, his friend.²⁴ At first their efforts to find a suitable site and building in Princess Anne and vicinity were of little avail. It is thought that one of the places considered was the old site of the Washington Academy, located south of Jones Creek, about one mile and a half south of Princess Anne on the road to Pocomoke City. It was decided that the building there was so dilapidated that an attempt at restoration would be impractical.²⁵ Eventually, Waters and Wilson agreed that Olney, recently purchased in June of 1886 by the Wilsons with the idea that it would become a permanent home for the family, should become the home of the proposed school.

It is not known whether the Wilsons were living at Olney at the time the decision was made. It is likely, however, that there were some misgivings by the Wilsons as to the outcome of their venture in purchasing Olney. In the first place, Wilson was appointed Presiding Elder of the Dover District, further to the north, in the same year that Olney had been contracted for. In the second place, there was some doubt that Olney, a comparatively large dwelling, could be maintained on the small salary paid to ministers of that day. In the third place, Wilson's attitude towards Negroes and Negro education, as pointed out above, was such that he needed few reasons or suggestions to dispose of his property for purposes of Negro education.

Wilson knew the pattern of race relations in Princess Anne and vicinity, having himself seen how coolly aloof the whites of the community could be towards him because of his friendly attitude in regard to Negroes. Apparently, Wilson knew that unless he disposed of the property the mores of the community would have prevented sale of the property to Negroes. Few whites of the community sanctioned the sale of Olney to Negroes and "kicked up quite a stir" when they learned that the sale was made.²⁶

Once the decision to sell Olney had been made, Wilson contacted the Centenary Biblical Institute.²⁷ Accordingly, John F. Goucher, at the time trustee of the Institute, and F. Maslin Frysinger, president, came to Princess Anne and examined the property in company of Waters and Wilson.²⁸ On August 24, 1886, Wilson and his wife, the former Mary Elizabeth Jefferson, deeded Olney to the Centenary Biblical Institute. Olney was sold for \$2000.²⁹

3. EARLY YEARS

With the signing of the deed to Olney in August of 1886, the Centenary Biblical Institute became the legal owner of a brick structure that was far superior to any other building for the education of Negroes on the Eastern Shore—and second only to the Centenary Biblical Institute in Baltimore. Olney remained the chief building on the campus for the next forty years.³⁰ It first served as the principal's office and residence, classroom, dining hall, and dormitory. Largely with student labor, a wing of frame construction, used principally for "recitation" and housing, was joined to the rear of Olney by 1894.³¹

Apparently, the grounds about Olney, consisting of sixteen acres, were not landscaped when the purchase was made. One of the first students recalled that trees, sagebrush, and tall grass were all about when he attended the school; and

one of the earliest projects of the first class was to help clear the land about Olney.³²

Word was soon passed around on the Eastern Shore that a new school was opening in September. The understanding was given that the school would offer subjects "higher" than those found in the curriculum of the local county schools—an inducement that was not passed over lightly by parents, and Emily J. King, a teacher in Somerset County, who became one of the first students.

No name was used to designate the new school during the first few months after the purchase of Olney. Yet, it was known that the Delaware Conference, through the Centenary Biblical Institute, would have a hand in the support of the school. Thus, the school was soon referred to as the "Delaware Conference Academy;" but the exact date or circumstances relating to this appellation are not known. Furthermore, the school was popularly spoken of as the "Academy"—a designation that can occasionally be heard at the time of this writing.

The school first opened on September 13, 1886. There were thirty-seven students to enroll; at least thirteen were girls. All except one of the students, a resident of New Jersey, came from Maryland, principally the Eastern Shore. In fact, Somerset County supplied the majority of the students, including several of the area's oldest family names—Waters, Dennis, Maddox, and Tilghman. Eight boys and two girls were housed in Olney, and the remaining twenty-seven students lived in the community.³³

John Henry Nutter, born in 1857 in Worcester County and a graduate of the Centenary Biblical Institute in 1877, was asked to become the first principal of the school, perhaps in August of 1886. Nutter was serving as a Methodist minister in the hamlet of Royal Oak, Maryland, when his presiding elder, Walter J. Parker, approached him about teaching at the new school, which Nutter had not previously heard about. Parker informed Nutter that he had just come from a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Centenary Biblical Institute, where he had learned that the Board had decided to open a branch of the Institute in Princess Anne. Nutter was given first choice to become either the principal of the new school or principal of the normal branch in Baltimore. He selected the Baltimore mission for reasons of health.³⁴

Benjamin Oliver Bird was the second choice of the Board, and inasmuch as Nutter had chosen to go to Baltimore, Bird became the first head of the school at Princess Anne.

Little is known about Bird. There are few records available that throw light upon his life and work. The tombstone that marks his burial place, a few hundred feet south of Olney, shows that he was born August 11, 1853 and died forty-four years later, April 26, 1897. Bird was a graduate of the Centenary Biblical Institute and later taught several years in its Preparatory Department.³⁵

Apparently, he was very much interested in increasing the size of the student body as well as the size of the physical plant. His efforts were not without success. In the year of his death the student enrollment stood at ninety-three, and two frame dormitories, one immediately north and the other south of Olney, had been erected. Moreover, shortly after his death, work had begun on still another structure designed for work in carpentry and printing.

Perhaps the most significant acquisition to the physical plant that received the wholehearted support of Bird was the purchase of additional land. On January 3, 1890, Clara E. Morris, the widow of Louis W. Morris, a white physician of Princess Anne, sold the remainder of the old Olney estate, consisting of about one-hundred and three acres, to the school.³⁶ The one-hundred and three acres and

improvements were sold for the sum of \$7500. Bird was on hand at the time the sale was made and evidence of his interest is shown in an excerpt from the court record:³⁷

The said B. O. Bird joins in the conveyance because he contracted to purchase the above described real estate from other grantors, but never paid the purchase money for the same, and; hereby consent to the said sale and this grant unto the said Morgan College.

Local tradition has it that Bird was a faithful worker in behalf of both school and community. He endeared himself to the Negroes of the community, who after his death named their largest fraternal organization in his honor—the B. O. Bird Lodge Number 42, Knights of Pythias.³⁸ For many years the school preserved his memory through the “Bird Lyceum.” On a granite monument that marks his grave his hopeful epitaph is written:

God knows the way. He holds the key.
He guides us with an unerring hand.
Sometimes with tearless eye we'll see up there.
Someday we'll understand.

Bird was assisted during the first school year by his wife, Portia, who became head of the school and served for three years after her husband's death. The only other person who served regularly on the staff during the first year was Jacob C. Dunn who taught rhetoric, grammar, and mathematics.

These three persons, Bird, his wife and Dunn, carried on faithfully the instructional work during the first year. The nature of the subject matter that was taught during the first year is not clearly known since no records are extant. It may be gathered from interviews with some of the first students that, during the first few years, Bird taught such subjects as mathematics, physiology, geometry, and algebra, while his wife taught geography, history, and elocution. Dunn taught grammar and rhetoric. It is likely also that a great deal of the instruction was of a religious nature. None of the three instructors was serving on the faculty at the end of the first twenty years.

Instruction was primarily preparatory and elementary during the first years, yet by the time Bird died in 1897 the pattern of the curriculum and administration had been set. The curriculum came to embody the three main features of the old Centenary Biblical Institute—academic, normal, and preparatory. In addition, industrial subjects were given. Thus the curriculum embraced the liberal arts, teacher training, and trades. Diplomas were granted for the completion of instruction in the first two areas only, that is, academic and normal; but students were required to take part in some phase of practical or manual work for several hours of each school day.

By 1897 there were six teachers and ninety-three students, a graduating class of thirteen, and an industrial arts building costing \$5000 under construction. In addition to the normal and academic work, boys were given instruction in shoemaking, carpentry, blacksmithing, tailoring, and agriculture; girls were taught dressmaking, cooking, and hand and machine stitching.³⁹ An advertisement of the school for 1897, announcing the beginning of the school term for October 1, shows the nature of instruction and administration at the end of the first ten years:⁴⁰

PRINCESS ANNE

IS COLLEGE PREPARATORY GRADE, with five trades taught the boys, and all useful instruction in household affairs given the girls. No tuition for instruction in the industries. The highest tuition is \$12 per year. Books are free. Ministers' children, without regard of denomination, only tuition. For information send for catalogues to

REV. F. J. WAGNER

COR. EDMUNSON & FULTON AVENUES, BALTIMORE

With the death of Portia Bird in 1900, one of the most brilliant and colorful figures in the history of the school—and of the Delaware Conference—was appointed as principal of the school and served in this capacity for three brief but exciting years.

Pezavia O'Connell came to the school at the age of 39 with an uncommon degree of formal education. He was born in Natchez, Mississippi on March 2, 1861. At the age of 18 he entered Jackson Baptist College and soon won a scholarship to study theology at Gammon Theological Seminary, where he graduated in 1888. He served as a minister for several years thereafter in North Carolina where he cautiously wooed and married the fair complexioned Marie Johnson. In 1893 he became a member of the Delaware Conference; served actively on various committees and charges. While pastor of the Bainbridge Church in Philadelphia he earned the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Pennsylvania in 1898, a distinct honor for Negroes of that period. In subsequent years he taught at Gammon, Howard University, and Morgan College.⁴¹

An insight into his personality may be gleaned from the recollections of persons who knew him. One of his students recalled some of the mannerisms of this volatile, slender man during the time he taught at Morgan College.⁴² O'Connell was quite impressive as a teacher and was a fluent student of the classics who had a flair for etymology. He "hated ignorance" and despised idleness on the part of students. Frequently he would reprimand students in class or on the campus for wasting their time. Constantly, he urged Negro youth to be progressive, industrious, and economical in order to offset the serious handicap of color and status. At one time he, who himself did not smoke, said that a Negro who lost time in smoking a cigarette was "fire on one end and a fool on the other."

O'Connell believed in helping worthy students who gave promise. It is thought that he paid much of the expenses of at least one student through medical school. Yet students joked about his squeamishness. Even after he had advanced in years, O'Connell never owned an automobile but preferred to ride the trolleys. One day his students at Morgan College saw him in a taxi and remarked jokingly that perhaps O'Connell was going to die inasmuch as he was spending money for a taxi. O'Connell was on his way to a hospital and died that same night—November 26, 1930.⁴³

However, the school changed little during the three-year stay of O'Connell. It is true that there was an increase in student enrollment, which passed well over the one hundred mark, but no additional buildings were erected.⁴⁴ The curriculum—highly classical and literary—was not basically changed. Indeed, there were no great changes in the course of study until after World War I. It remained elementary for the first three years, academic and normal for the next four.

Industrial education, required of all normal and academic students, continued in the background, the stepchild of the curriculum.⁴⁵

Besides their extensive—but not intensive—academic program, students were occupied with other activities that reflect many attitudes peculiar to life in America at the turn of the century as well as the religious atmosphere that disciplined campus life. For example, baseball was played on a field to the east of the campus, but not on Sundays. Also athletic and military drills were held on the campus, required of both boys and girls, usually at one o'clock in the afternoon.⁴⁶ There was also croquet and tennis. Musical, band or literary programs were held on Saturday nights, but not on Sundays. In fact, the band was a source of pride for both students and faculty and was frequently called upon to give performances at various exercises.

Well before the end of the twenty year period, going to church had become a well established practice. Students marched in a body from the school to the church, separated by sex. One side of the Metropolitan Church was reserved for people from the school⁴⁷ who put in a good attendance every Sunday and often put the minister on his best, for “professors” were likewise in constant attendance at all important church services.

Going to chapel was a frequent and required ritual. Chapel was held several days weekly on the first floor of the boys' dormitory, which was located several yards north of Olney. None of the programs has been preserved; presumably a great number were not printed despite the fact that there was a printing press in use on the campus at the turn of the century.

During the first twenty years, an impressive list of persons visited the campus, and many of them addressed the student body. Invariably, the greater number of visitors were ministers of the Delaware Conference. Students who were in attendance during the period have revealed that the campus was visited by such nationally known figures as Booker T. Washington, a protagonist in the industrial education of the Negro and founder of Tuskegee Institute; W. E. B. DuBois, Negro intellectual and founder of the Niagara movement; and Madame C. J. Walker, manufacturer of preparations for hairdress. Moreover, there were many well-known local and state figures who made visits to the campus. For example, the presidents and trustees of Morgan College, formerly the Centenary Biblical Institute, frequented the campus: F. J. Wagner, John F. Goucher, John O. Spencer, W. Maslin Frysinger. Various ministers of the Delaware Conference, including John H. Nutter, A. R. Shockley, Joseph R. Waters, D. H. Hargis, likewise made frequent visits to the campus.

During the early years of development the school existed primarily upon the precarious support given by the Delaware Conference, the Board of Trustees of Morgan College, and receipts from students. Few records are available that throw light upon the financial condition of the school during the early years. The total income and sources, or the nature and size of expenditures are not definitely known. It can be stated with a fair degree of positiveness, however, that the income never equalled the amount envisioned in the plans of school authorities; that student fees were a sizeable item in the budget; that expenditures went primarily for teachers' salaries and the construction of several frame buildings including a barn, teachers' cottages, a boys' dormitory, and an industrial arts building; that finances were administered largely by the parent organization, Morgan College, which constantly engaged in campaigns to buttress its meager and inadequate income.

The early years of development were an historic prelude to many fundamental factors that continued in the later life of the institution. Not the least of such factors were the influence of Methodism and its effects upon the curriculum and the discipline of the student body; the classical and literary nature of the curriculum in face of a demand for agricultural and industrial education; the predominance of the Eastern Shore in the make-up of the student body; a sincere, if not always dynamic leadership that acknowledged and promoted the cause of Negro education in an atmosphere conditioned by the complex duality of Negro-white relations; and finally, the quest for financial aid.

The nature of the last factor, however, was characterized by two basic changes that were far reaching in the subsequent history of the school, namely (1) the coming of federal aid which brought into focus the question of control of a school, privately owned, founded, and administered by Methodists; and (2) the coming of state aid which, besides further underlining this question, posed another in regard to the responsibilities of the state towards a class of citizens—the Negro. The answer to these two questions embraces much of the story of the school that later became known as Maryland State College; to a greater extent, the answer embraces the story of the higher education of the Negro in Maryland.

NOTES, CHAPTER XXXIII

1. At the time of this writing the Manokin is hardly navigable at the north end of this street by row boat. The rivers of Maryland have been filling with soil washed away from farm lands. For the classic treatment of this phenomenon, the reader is referred to Avery O. Craven, *Soil Exhaustion as a Factor in the Agricultural History of Virginia and Maryland, 1606-1860* (University of Chicago Press, 1926).

2. The old Court House burned in 1900. A railroad was built from Salisbury through Princess Anne shortly after the close of the Civil War largely through the enterprising efforts of John W. Crisfield, lawyer, and president of the Eastern Shore Railroad Company. See Charles J. Truitt, *Historic Salisbury Maryland* (New York, 1932), p. 73.

3. Doris Maslin Cohn, "The Haynie Letters," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XXVI, No. 2 (June, 1941), p. 2.

4. John W. Alvord, *Semi-Annual Report on Schools for Freedmen*, January, 1866 (Washington, D. C.), p. 13.

5. *Annual Report*, 1869, Freedmen's Aid Society, Methodist Episcopal Church, pp. 8-9.

6. R. S. Rust, *The Freedmen's Aid Society*, John F. Slater Fund, Occasional Papers of the Trustees, Baltimore, 1894-1928.

7. For a comparison of support from philanthropies see Ullin W. Leavell, *Philanthropy in Negro Education* (Nashville, Tennessee, 1930), and Jesse Brundage Sears, *Philanthropy in the History of American Higher Education*, U. S. Bureau of Education, Bulletin 26, 1922.

8. *Annual Report*, 1879, *op. cit.*

9. *Minutes of the Session*, 1884, Delaware Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

10. *Ibid.*, 1886, p. 33.

11. *Ibid.*

12. Interview, November 9, 1948, Pocomoke City, Maryland. Nutter was one of the official visitors sent by the Delaware Conference to the Institute in 1885, the year before the school opened. *Minutes*, 1885, *op. cit.*, p. 35.

13. *Minutes*, 1884, p. 30.

14. *Minutes*, 1886, *op. cit.*, pp. 37-38.

15. Interview, Nutter, *op. cit.*

16. Daniel L. Ridout, "His Idea Started a College," *The Central Christian Advocate*, March 29, 1945. An interview with Lilly Waters Bunday, March 15, 1949, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania likewise supported this view.

17. Interview, Lilly Waters Bunday, *op. cit.*

18. For the circuits he served see *Minutes*, 1948, p. 624

19. *Ibid.*

20. Perhaps he was a mate at the age of seventeen. See *Standard Encyclopedia of the Alcohol Problem*, Ernest H. Cherrington, ed., Westerville, Ohio, 1930, Vol. VI, pp. 2860-1.

21. Letter from one of his sons, Hermon F. Wilson, M.D., San Francisco, California, dated April 13, 1949.

22. Interview, Nutter, *op. cit.*

23. *Dover Index*, March 31, 1892, quoted in *Popular Lectures*, a pamphlet containing information on John A. B. Wilson. This pamphlet was loaned by Herman F. Wilson, his son.

24. Daniel L. Ridout, *op. cit.*

25. Interview, Lilly Waters Bunday, *op. cit.* Washington Academy, a white school, was called the School on Back Creek from 1767 to 1795. There Luther Martin, member of the Constitutional Convention of 1787, taught. After a fire in 1795, the school was moved into a large brick building in 1800 near Jones Creek and renamed Washington Academy in honor of the nation's first president. The Academy was abandoned after the Civil War, but the brick structure remained standing, unsuitable for habitation until 1891 when its bricks were used in the building of a public school in Princess Anne. In 1939 some of the same bricks were used again in the construction of the Washington High School, Princess Anne. See *Maryland: A Guide to the Old Line State* (American Guide Series, WPA, New York, 1940), p. 425.

26. Interview, James I. Dennis, one of the first graduates, October 9, 1948.

27. Apparently no written correspondence exists of this notification.

28. Letter, Hermon F. Wilson, *op. cit.*

29. Land Office Records, Somerset County, Liber H. F. L., vol. 4, p. 309.

The Land Records of Somerset County, one of the oldest counties of Maryland, have been well preserved and show a remarkable continuity of transfer of titles from the earliest settlements to the present time. For example, the land on which Olney was located was settled by the families of Waters, Manlove, Hobbs, and Heath. Ezekial Haynie purchased from Josiah Hobbs on March 1, 1795, one hundred and fourteen acres, formerly known as "Deep Still" and "Spittle." The property remained in the Haynie family until 1867 when, upon an order of court, the property was sold to James U. Dennis. Following Dennis, the property was successively owned by Louis W. Morris, Beulah Hirst, Aaron Woodruff, John A. B. Wilson—and then the Centenary Biblical Institute. Within twenty years Olney and its sixteen acres had depreciated rapidly—from \$6500 in 1869 to \$2000 in 1886.

30. By 1897 a boys' dormitory to the north, and a girls' dormitory to the south, both of frame construction, had been erected. Ten years later, there was at least one barn, a teachers' dwelling, and a building for trades—all of frame construction. By the close of World War I, a brick dining hall, another teachers' dwelling, and a wing to the girls' dormitory had been built. In the meantime the boys' dormitory had burned. It was not until 1925 that a three-storied brick structure, called the "Administration Building," erected on the site of the old boys' dormitory, was built to replace permanently most of the services carried on in Olney.

31. Bernard C. Steiner, *History of Education in Maryland* (Washington, D. C., 1894), p. 205.

32. Interview, Dennis, *op. cit.*

33. This information, which appears to be highly reliable, was given to the author in response to a questionnaire by one of the first students, Hampton T. Johnson, a Methodist minister residing in Elkton, Maryland in December of 1948. There was an

enrollment of seventy students for the first year, according to the *Morgan College Bulletin*, July, 1925, p. 25.

34. Interview, Nutter, *op. cit.*

35. *Minutes*, 1885, *op. cit.*, p. 34.

36. The deed was made to the newly incorporated (1890) Morgan College, formerly the Centenary Biblical Institute. Land Office Records, *op. cit.*, Liber H. F. L., vol. 8, pp. 586-7.

37. *Ibid.*

38. Land Office Records, *op. cit.*, Liber W.J.S., vol. 80, p. 549.

39. *Minutes*, 1897, *op. cit.*, p. 66.

40. *Ibid.* This advertisement appears on the inside of the back cover of the minutes of the session of the Conference held at Asbury M. E. Church, Easton, Maryland, March 25-29, 1897.

41. *Minutes*, 1931, *op. cit.*, p. 115.

42. Interview, Horatio Jones, May 9, 1949.

43. *Ibid.*

44. *Minutes*, 1904, *op. cit.*, p. 62.

45. The course of study, textbooks, and credits during the early years are shown in the *Yearbook, Morgan College*, 1904, p. 38 *et seq.* The author is indebted to Joseph P. Joynes, Manokin, Maryland, for the loan of this valuable copy.

46. The date when the practice first began is not known.

47. Interview, Nutter, *op. cit.*

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Alvord, John W., *Semi-Annual Report on Schools for Freedmen*, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., 1866-1870, 10 vols.

Davids, Robert B., "A Comparative Study of White and Negro Education in Maryland" Ph.D. Thesis, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, 1936.

Leavell, Ullin W., *Philanthropy in Negro Education*, George Peabody College for Teachers, Contributions to Education No. 100, Nashville, Tennessee, 1930.

Maryland

Annual Report of Public Schools, 1866-1897

Land Office Records, Somerset County

Registry of Wills, Somerset County

Methodist Episcopal Church

Minutes of the Annual Conference, 1865-1900

Annual Report, Freedmen's Aid Society, 1869-1888.

Minutes of the Session, Baltimore Conference

Minutes of the Session, Delaware Conference

Minutes of the Session, Washington Conference

Peirce, Paul S., *The Freedmen's Bureau*, State University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, 1904.

Sears, Jesse B., *Philanthropy in the History of American Higher Education*, Bulletin No. 26, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., 1922.

Steiner, Bernard C., *History of Education in Maryland*, United States Bureau of Education, Circular No. 2, Government Printing Office, 1894.

Stowell, Jay S., *Methodist Adventures in Negro Education*, Methodist Book Concern, New York, 1922.

CHAPTER XXXIV

*Maryland State Teachers College
at Salisbury — 1925-1949*

*By Ida Belle Wilson Thomas**

The Maryland State Teachers College at Salisbury was located on the lower Eastern Shore in response to a long-felt need for a teacher training school to care for the educational interests of that section of the state. It has now (1950) been serving the people of Maryland for twenty-five years, and is firmly established as a part of the State's public educational system.

The school was authorized by the Maryland Legislature of 1922 and the purpose of its establishment is well stated in the following quotation from the legislative proceedings of that year:

The Maryland General Assembly of 1922 by joint resolution, created a commission to investigate the need and desirability of establishing a State Normal School on the Eastern Shore of Maryland; to have plans prepared for the establishment of such a school, if deemed desirable; to select and purchase a site for the same, and to erect buildings out of funds which may be provided therefor.

In that same session, certain preliminary funds were provided and the following commission purchased a site and initiated a building program:

Albert W. Ritchie
Charles R. Disharoon
Henry M. Fitzhugh
Albert S. Cook
Louis W. Gunby

Orlando Harrison
John B. Robins
William S. Gordy, Jr., Treasurer
William J. Holloway, Secretary

Salisbury, chosen by the General Assembly of 1922 as the location for the much-needed new teacher training institution, is a modern progressive little city of approximately sixteen thousand inhabitants. Situated at the center of the truck farming industry of the lower Delmarva peninsula, it is about equidistant from the Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic Ocean, and is easily accessible from all parts of the Eastern Shore. Its lakes and rivers give it a natural setting of rare beauty, and Maryland's seaside resort, Ocean City, is less than an hour's ride distant. Wilmington, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington and New York are in com-

* B.S., A.M., Teachers College, Columbia University; Ed.D., New York University. Professor of History at Maryland State Teachers College at Salisbury and Historian of the College. Dr. Thomas has served as a summer school instructor at the University of Maryland. She is widely known as a lecturer and as a contributor to various journals.

portable motoring distance, and the Pennsylvania Railroad's trunk line from New York to the South passes through the town. Air transport is also available with a well equipped airport of the American Airlines.

The site selected by the Building Commission, a farm of thirty acres just south of the town of Salisbury proper, (now within the corporate limit), was ideal for the proposed purpose. The grounds comprise attractive lawns ornamented with



Maryland State Teachers College at Salisbury

flowers, trees, shrubbery and evergreens, playground areas, tennis courts, and gardens. A spacious athletic field, where training in all forms of sport is given, is a distinctive feature of the institution.

The school itself, created by the Legislative Commission of 1922, is a fireproof group of brick buildings designed by competent school architects and finished in a manner notable for beauty as well as for appropriateness and use. The architectural style, Maryland Colonial, has made it possible to present a beautiful group of buildings entirely under one roof. The completed plant includes administrative offices, classrooms, social room, library, dining hall, kitchen, infirmary, and dormitories for three hundred students. There is also a large auditorium, and a gymnasium opening into the rear of the stage. This is so arranged that folding doors may be opened, making one large stage which may be used for large choral work, athletic exhibitions, etc. The campus laboratory school comprising four classrooms, library, little theatre and teachers' offices is at the rear of the north wing.

The school at Salisbury had, as its original aim, the training of elementary school teachers, with special emphasis on rural education, and as such it was first established in 1925 as the *Maryland State Normal School at Salisbury*. At this time, there was a two year curriculum, organized on a three term basis, with an enrollment of one hundred and five students. Later, the curriculum comprised three years on the semester basis, and in 1934 the State Board of Education extended it to four years, with the awarding of a Bachelor of Science degree in education upon the completion of four years work. In June, 1935, it was decided

that the State Normal Schools should become teachers colleges and that the curriculum of the first two years should be greatly enriched, thus enabling students, other than prospective teachers, to do undergraduate work. Today, that situation largely prevails. The college has, as its principal objective, the preparation of teachers for the elementary and junior high schools of Maryland, but it also puts forth every feasible effort to adapt itself to the present needs of all high school graduates who can benefit from college instruction. The addition of many non-professional courses to the curriculum since 1934 enables the individual student to secure an all-round development as a basis for additional academic or professional training. Since 1944, many G. I. students have been enrolled in the college.

A college, however, is not just a number of buildings with well-equipped classrooms and library set in a spacious campus; it is, above all else, the vision of some founder, and the developing creation of some group of devoted teachers. Thus, the history of Salisbury State Teachers College starts with the dreams and practical achievements of its first President, Dr. William J. Holloway. One of the best sources of information concerning the establishment and development of the college is found in the annual reports of Dr. Holloway to the State Board of Education, especially the year 1925. These concise pages of facts tell much about the writer himself, who resigned his position of Assistant State Superintendent of the Schools of Maryland to return to his native city Salisbury, and take over the arduous task of launching a new institution. He was a man of keen mind and great vision, who brought to his work an ardent love of public education and a knowledge of public school needs. A man of well-balanced judgment, he welcomed new ideas and methods in education, but knowing the conservative temper of the Eastern Shore, he was not carried away by fads and theories. Dr. Holloway placed great emphasis upon the service which the college could render to the community, and by a well arranged series of musical and dramatic entertainments, popular lecture courses and colorful historical pageants, he did much to make the public aware of the new college in its midst. The musical and literary abilities of the students and faculty members were soon recognized all over the Eastern Shore and the ensuing publicity doubtless brought many new students to the college. During the nearly ten years of his presidency (he retired in the fall of 1934 and died in March, 1936, at the comparatively early age of 63) the school fulfilled many of his educational dreams. His slogan, "A well trained teacher in every county school" was practically an accomplished fact, and the local press of Salisbury said in 1936:

State Teachers College here is regarded as a monument to the efficient and untiring efforts of Dr. William J. Holloway toward the establishment of the institution.

Each member of the original faculty of ten made some special contribution to the growth and spirit of the school. Visitors and students always remember the cordial welcome of "Miss Ruth," who did so much to embody the hospitable traditions of the Eastern Shore. Miss Ruth F. C. Powell, who retired after more than twenty years of service as social director, nurse, and general "mother" to the school, is always the first thought of all returning alumni.

No Glee Club ever sang with more verve and spirit than did the "Sho Echo" girls under the guidance of Miss Gladys Feidler from Erie, Pennsylvania, an Oberlin graduate of rare musical ability. Practice teaching was a joy when "Pop" Richardson, the genial superintendent of buildings and grounds, drove the school

Ford, and taught each girl to drive. (Safety driving was part of the curriculum.)

The school suffered a great loss in the untimely death, in 1933, of Dr. Edna Marshall, who was director of student teacher training. Her name is perpetuated in the "Edna M. Marshall Memorial Student Loan Fund" and the beautiful dark eyes in her portrait still seem to follow the work of the children in the elementary school.

Three of the original faculty members are still in the college. Dr. T. J. Caruthers, philosopher, mathematician, director of student teaching, is still a very active and very busy man. Dr. Anne H. Matthews, teacher training educator and specialist in children's literature, is widely known as a traveler and a motion picture enthusiast. Her illustrated lectures on "Norway" and the "Far West" have been enjoyed by many groups of people. Dr. Ida Belle Wilson Thomas, the college historian, still likes to talk of the traditions and beauties of the Eastern Shore and is actively interested in the Alumni Association. Many other faculty members were later added, all of whom made their contributions to the development of the school.

At the very beginning of the college much attention was paid to the selection of distinctive and appropriate school colors and emblems. The school seal which features in its center the colors and the shield of the state of Maryland is unique in construction and design. Under the direction of the first art teacher, Miss Nancy Beyer, a contest was held to produce a seal which should show in artistic form the distinctive products of Maryland's Eastern Shore. The contest was won by Miss Grace Hallam, an honor student, who combined the pines and corn fields, the sailboats and the blue waters of the landscape, with the definitely recognizable melons and cucumbers, berries and tomatoes, peaches and sunshine of the Shore. This unique seal imprinted on all official stationery, jewelry, plaques, and arm-bands, was even molded into the supporting standards of the seats in the college auditorium.

We quote from an article in the 1926 Holly Leaf, "Each portion of the seal is characteristic of either the State, the Shore or our School. The loblolly pine is characteristic of the Eastern Shore; the boat represents our fishing industry; the plow and the farm products typify the agricultural interests of the state; the strawberry bed shown in the lower left foreground represents a leading industry of this section; the sun at its zenith signifies the educational service which it is hoped the school will render; the Maryland shield with the name of the school shows that it is a State institution."

The seal and the school colors, maroon and gold were carried out for many years in the "Evergreen," the school annual publication. Today, those colors are more frequently seen in the college pennants, windshield stickers, and the caps so dear to the hearts of all freshmen.

The distinctive architecture of the school, as well as the beauties of the landscape inspired many college songs, notably the Alumni song—heard twice each year—and the Alma Mater, a very lovely and haunting melody. The latter was composed by Miss Margaret Black of Cecilton, Maryland, who was teacher of music and director of college choruses from 1932 to 1942.

O Alma Mater, standing wise and stately,
We dedicate our song to thee.
A song of praise, a song of deep devotion,
A song of love and endless loyalty.

Salisbury College, school of gracious beauty,
Thy portals stand, an open door
Through which we enter lives of deeper wisdom,
Oh, we shall love thy name forever more.

In the quarter century of its existence, the college suffered with the nation during the dark days of the depression and of World War II. In 1934 Dr. Thomas J. Caruthers was Acting President. His problems were many, but he kept the college going by his appeal to the school spirit of the students and faculty. He philosophically affirmed that the State Teachers College at Salisbury had two major functions: first, to make available to the young men and women of the State two years of general education; second, to give technical professional education to the prospective teachers of the children of the state.

Acting on that philosophy, the lean days of the depression were weathered, and in 1940, enrollment and facilities had reached a new high under the capable direction of the present President, Dr. Jefferson D. Blackwell, who took over the control of the college in 1935. Then the war struck. Almost overnight, the young men left the campus for the training camps. Faculty members also departed. Mrs. Grace Strickland Chaires, librarian, became a "Wave." Dr. John B. May, as a member of Uncle Sam's Army, went to far off India. Coach Benn Maggs and Mr. Paul Hyde, elementary school principal, went into the Navy, Mr. Henry Nelson, the superintendent of buildings and grounds, resumed his former duties as a marine engineer, and Miss Margaret Black, the popular director of music, became an Army Special Services Hostess at Camp Pickett.

Another change occasioned by the exigencies of war and the consequent shortage of teachers was the summer session. This was intended primarily to accelerate teacher preparation for those students already in college as noted by an excerpt from the 1942 summer session bulletin, "In order to aid in meeting the present shortage of elementary teachers; to enable men students to complete the two years of work required for junior standing at other colleges and for entrance to the Naval Defense, especially, as well as to meet the needs of teachers in service, summer sessions of ten weeks each for 1942 and 1943, have been organized. . . . Students may enroll for a maximum of eleven semester hours each summer."

But the emergency did not pass in two years. Summer sessions were held through 1946, and in spite of the extra load on the faculty and the "bearing of the burden in the heat of the day," much good work was done. Many teachers in service were enabled to complete work for the Bachelor of Science degree, and requests are still coming in for a resumption of summer sessions in Salisbury.

During this time, the almost "young man-less" college struggled on. The Alumni Association and community social committees kept up an active correspondence with the former students now scattered all over the globe, and tried to make the soldiers' home-comings and leave-takings as happy as possible. The alumni directory and news-sheet of 1944, largely the work of Mrs. Anna Jones Cooper, alumni secretary and assistant librarian, is a lesson in world geography. In 1948, a large bronze memorial plaque, data for which was collected largely by Dr. John B. May and his wife, Dr. Florence Simonds May, was presented to the college by the Alumni Association. The guard of honor, during the dedication ceremonies, was composed of college veterans and commanded by a faculty member, Dr. Maurice C. Fleming, who had been a captain in Italy. This plaque contains the names of two hundred ninety former students and four faculty mem-

bers. Six names are marked by a gold star. A group of evergreens was planted on the campus by the class of 1946 as a memorial to the following men: O. Everett Bennett, Alton Dryden, Leland L. Dunn, William D. Newcomb, Harrington I. Pritchett, and David L. Somervell.

The Salisbury State Teachers College was organized on the principle of active student participation in both making and promoting the policies of the school. From the annual report of 1925, we quote:

After mature deliberation by both students and faculty, it was decided to organize extra-class activities around two literary societies and five clubs, namely, Rural Life Club, Dramatic Club, Glee Club, Citizenship Club and Y. W. C. A. In addition, the students receive systematic training in athletics. Membership in the literary societies is determined by lots, one-half of the students and the faculty drawing for each society. The societies, the "Bagleian Literary Society" and the "Carnean Literary Society" are named in honor of the prominent educators, Dr. William C. Bagley and Miss Mabel Carney. Through a student council, the student body participates in the government of the school.

Many happy memories center around the literary and athletic contests of the "Bagleians" and the "Carneans." Each society soon adopted a mascot. The Bagleian bull-pup and the Carnean white rooster were in the front lines of the cheering sections, and after their demise, a plaster model of each was proudly cherished.

The Student Grange (an outgrowth of the Rural Life Club) participated in State and National meetings and contests, and the Glee Club and Dramatic Club "engineered" many school performances. The George Washington and City of Salisbury Bi-Centennial celebration of 1932 and the Maryland Tercentenary Pageant of 1934, will long be remembered.

The "Holly Leaf" and "Evergreen," student publications, are authentic records of the college during its entire existence, and their history is one of the most complete recordings of S. T. C. tradition. Here we find the first account of two time honored traditions of Salisbury State Teachers College, the Alumni Induction Ceremony and the Christmas Candle Lighting. We quote from a June, 1927, "Holly Leaf":

At six-thirty o'clock subsequent to the Alumni dinner the induction of the members of the senior class eligible for membership in the Alumni Association will be held. This ceremony, a solemn and beautiful one, is conducted by faculty and alumni, and held on the classic front portico, illuminated by the rays of the setting sun. To each senior who becomes a member, the induction service makes the most profound and stirring impression on his last days of active school life.

Today the above statement is still true and it speaks well for Eastern Shore sunshine to note that only once in twenty-four years has inclement weather made it necessary to hold the ceremony indoors.

In December, 1926, we note from the pen of Dr. Holloway, "One thousand nine hundred and twenty-six years ago a tradition was started among the people of the earth. One year ago tradition was started at the Maryland State Normal School at Salisbury. Celebrating the birth of Christ is the ancient custom, and to promote this custom we have devised a reverent and effective ceremony, the annual Christmas candle-lighting. We are convinced that it is a worth-while tra-

dition to establish and we hope that the future students will desire to continue it."

That desire has been fulfilled. Each year at Christmas time the lighted Christmas trees stands in the beautiful social room of the college, and the students come in by pairs, singing carols and carrying unlighted candles, which they light from the huge Christmas candle bought twenty-five years ago. Gifts are brought and stockings are filled for the needy children of the community, and as the students sit on the floor and recite in unison the "Night Before Christmas," they cannot help but feel with the founder that, "in lighting the small candle of our lives from the large one which is the college, we are gleaning ideals to inspire us in our work and bring out the flames of energy, ambition and initiative which are lying dormant within us."

Organizations, as well as institutions, change and develop. Under the vigorous administration of a new president, Dr. Jefferson D. Blackwell, the literary societies were combined, the dramatic club became the Sophanes Players under the capable direction of Mrs. Lucy M. Bennett, and the Citizenship Club grew into a Bagleian-Carnean debating society, with Mr. A. L. Fleming as sponsor. The Y. W. C. A. spread its wings and became the Christian Association, for in 1936 the student body included many young men. The women athletes, with their enthusiastic teacher, Miss Helen Jamart, now share honors with the men's soccer and basketball teams, directed by Coach Benn Maggs.

Dr. Blackwell also instituted a very important school day, High School Seniors Day, when prospective college students are invited to come and observe the set-up and activities of the college. The athletic exhibition, the college chorus, the special orchestra for the evening dance, and the announcement by the college president of the annual honor students, all tend to make this day a red-letter day in the school year.

Student publications were ably edited and directed for many years by Dr. Anne H. Matthews. These, the "Holly Leaf" and the "Evergreen," the year book, show in their names distinctive Eastern Shore products, and always feature school athletics, traditions and the honor students, especially Miss S. T. C.

This honor, the highest in the college, was evolved by the faculty and student body in the early years of the school and is awarded according to a series of very carefully selected standards. To quote from a 1931 "Holly Leaf," "For several years it has been the delightful system at S. N. S. for the entire student body to choose one senior for the signal honor of being 'Miss S. N. S.' the one who best typifies the spirit of the school. Personal likes or dislikes should not enter into this, for standards have been agreed upon. She must be healthy, friendly, versatile, dependable, and, among other things, possess a high quality of professional spirit." Salisbury State Teachers College today continues the same high standard of selection in choosing Miss S. T. C., although human nature being what it is, the honor of May Queen runs a close second.

Times change but the annual May Day on the beautiful front campus keeps the traditional form. The honor of being chosen Queen of Beauty is a high one. The Queen's attendants are the honor students and excited young members of the campus elementary school, a very vital part of any teachers college. The order and colorful beauty of May Day is largely the creation of Miss Helen Jamart of the athletic department and Miss Henrietta Purnell of the art department.

The student council of early days has grown into a Student Government Association and in the fall of 1945, after much agitation over powers and duties, rules and regulations, a constitution was drawn up for the Student Government

Association. On the whole it has functioned very efficiently. We quote from the editor of the "Holly Leaf" in December, 1947:

The burden for the preservation of hallowed traditions and heritages in any college falls on the shoulders of the Student Government Association. Since this college trains professional teachers who are to instruct the youth of America, their readiness and preparation gained here and their probability of securing the best teaching position available definitely depends upon the reputation and high standards maintained by the students who make up the college. . . . The time to begin to get a sound education and to improve our social and moral standards is *now*! Shall we therefore each do our part to better our relations with each other and the community? From such wholesome relations will evolve a rich circle of friendships and contacts which will elevate S. T. C. to a higher professional level. . . . To achieve this fully there must also be complete coordination between the members of the faculty and the Student Government President and Executive Board.

In the spring of 1949, urged thereto probably by Dr. Anne H. Matthews, faculty representative on the Student Government Board, a beginning was made toward establishing a Foreign Scholarship Fund so that some worthy student of the college might be aided in studying abroad. Several faculty members and friends of the college contributed to the fund, and a benefit concert was given by a talented young lyric soprano, Anne Marshall Wilson, a niece of the late Dr. Edna Marshall, first director of teacher training at S. T. C.

J. Walter Potter, a junior student from Cambridge, was chosen to receive the scholarship, and attended the University of Zürich, Switzerland in the summer of 1949.

Other campus organizations which show the trend of the times are Future Teachers of America, the Cosmophonic Society and the Camera Club.

The position of the library in the College was early recognized in the physical plant by giving to it practically all of the first floor wing for reading room and stack space, as well as work rooms. This position has been maintained in the intellectual field by obtaining for its book collection those books best fitted to care for the needs of a four-year College for the training of teachers in the elementary school field, as well as works suitable for the use of students on the junior college level.

As a result of the State Teachers College making a change from Normal School to a four-year degree granting institution, it was found necessary to employ a full-time professionally trained librarian, and to enlarge the library to take care of the needs of the widened curriculum. Although the library contained 6000 volumes in 1929, yet it grew slowly because of the heavy financial burden of supplying text-books to the students, and in September, 1937, when Miss Grace Strickland was employed as accredited librarian, little more than 7000 individual titles were on the shelves. The desire of the college to become a member of the American Association of Teachers Colleges led to greatly increased buying of library books and the requirement of students to furnish their own texts. The library requirement for accreditation was that there be a full-time professionally trained librarian and a book collection of at least 15,000 volumes. This requirement was met in 1942.

The library has been built up gradually and now has approximately 23,000 volumes. The Campus Elementary School which is under the supervision of the

College Library, and which serves the Laboratory School, has approximately 3,400 volumes.

The Library of the Teachers College at Salisbury has always been a very live and vital part of the College. It seeks in every possible way to interest future teachers in all forms of reading materials and visual aids available.

When the college was established in Salisbury in the fall of 1925, one of the first questions it asked itself was this, "How can this school best serve the community in which it is located, how can it be of greatest benefit to its neighborhood?" Various ideas presented themselves as an answer to that question. Some of those answers, notably the musical, athletic and dramatic productions by the student body, and the whole-hearted participation by faculty members in community civic and religious organizations, have been discussed elsewhere. A history of the college, however, should include another phase of the question which may come under the head of adult education.

From 1925 to 1930 an annual series of public lectures was given by various members of the faculty. These represent all departments of the college, and were well received by the community. Then for several years the college opened its spacious auditorium which seats nearly one thousand, to worthwhile community enterprises and benefit concerts, and plays. From this evolved the Eastern Shore Community Concert Association, made up of citizens of Salisbury, and nearby communities, who bring to the city each year nationally known musical and dramatic artists.

Another phase of this public relations work is seen in the evening classes in various subjects. These are of both credit and non-college credit type, and until the past two years were not open to students regularly enrolled in the college. Perhaps one of the best community services is the annual Public and Professional Relations Forum, a vehicle for the exchange of ideas upon education. This was first held in Salisbury in 1942, and is sponsored by the Maryland State Teachers Association, the Maryland Congress of Parents and Teachers, the National Education Association, the Salisbury Chamber of Commerce, the Eastern Shore County Teachers Association, and the Salisbury State Teachers College. The programs have usually taken the form of panel discussions and participants have been representative Maryland educators, clubwomen and business men. The 1946 topic was "The Role of Education in These Transitional Times," and in 1947 the group discussed "Dividends from an Increased Investment in Education." A member of the college faculty usually acts as co-ordinating chairman for the group. The 1949 forum is scheduled for November with Dr. Ida Belle W. Thomas as faculty chairman.

In the life of any college, achievement of its graduates plays a very important part. Even though Salisbury State Teachers College is not ancient, yet much has happened since 1925 and the records of the Alumni Association show that Maryland's school system would be much poorer without the work of S. T. C. graduates. In 1949, six county supervisors of elementary schools, four on the Eastern Shore and two in Anne Arundel County, were listed among the Salisbury graduates. Twenty principals of consolidated schools attended the 1948 Homecoming, and each year adds to the list of successful teachers in service.

The Alumni Association holds two meetings annually, one as a part of Commencement week activities, the other the second weekend in October. The June meeting features the college graduates, especially the ten year classes—in 1949 the classes of 1929, of 1939, and of 1949, each held a special "get-together," and the

officers of the Association are chosen from graduates of those years. The fall meeting is more of a gala Homecoming, with athletic events, and general college school-spirit enthusiasm. Since 1945 more men have attended the college, several of whom are now ordained ministers of various Protestant denominations. A number have gone into the field of radio announcing, dentistry and law, and at least ten have remained in some branch of the Armed Services, where they achieved prominence before 1945. The first graduating class, that of 1926, numbered thirty girls. Of these, four are deceased, three are successful managers of independent business establishments, one is a mortician, one an associate banker, two have sent a son or daughter as a student to their Alma Mater, and twelve are still active in the teaching profession. Of this latter number one is a county supervisor and another a member of the teaching staff of the College Elementary School. Each graduate is married, and most of them have children. The State of Maryland should be proud of these women, the graduates of 1926.

The Alumni Association has presented several distinctive gifts to the college, notable among these being the oil portraits of "Miss Ruth" and of Dr. T. J. Caruthers. The main object of this group, however, is not to give money, for few of them are wealthy, but to keep alive the contacts between the graduates and their Alma Mater. Branch associations are active in a number of counties in the state. Parent-Teacher organizations are officered by alumni, and worthy high school graduates are assisted in college attendance. The class of 1944 presented to the college an oil portrait of Dr. J. D. Blackwell, which was accepted by Governor Herbert R. O'Connor.

During the nearly twenty years of its existence 984 young men and women have graduated from Salisbury State Teachers College, and of that number approximately 450 are still in active educational service.

As mentioned above, in 1935, Salisbury State Teachers College became a degree granting institution, and started with another phase of development under the presidency of Dr. Jefferson D. Blackwell, who brought to the office of college president a wide experience in education work, coming as he did with an excellent training and broad experience gained in three colleges, the United States Office of Education, and eighteen years of actual experience in the state departments of education of Texas, Pennsylvania and Maryland. Under his capable and vigorous administration, the student body has outgrown the college proper. Many new courses and new faculty members have been added, and the business administration and offices have been greatly enlarged.

Along with the other departments of the college the Campus Elementary School has grown and progressed with the years. Starting with two teachers and an enrollment of fifty children, it now has a faculty of four with one hundred twenty-five children. In accordance with the aims and function of the school it has purposely been kept small, the necessary practice teaching being done in the nearby public elementary schools. Those aims were well expressed by Dr. Edna M. Marshall in 1927, "What the science laboratory is to the study of chemistry and physics, the elementary school is to the teacher training institution. In it normal school students observe the work of expert teachers; they help in carrying on its activities; they do some teaching under the most careful supervision. Of the three—observing, participating, teaching—the one receiving the greatest emphasis in our campus elementary school is observing expert teaching, for this school is not planned for practice teaching but is a laboratory for demonstration teaching."

Since 1948, when Salisbury College State Teachers College began a more in-

tensive preparation of teachers for the junior high schools of Maryland, the campus school has suffered acutely from "growing pains." One item on the agenda for the college expansion program recently launched by the State of Maryland is the building of a new and adequate campus school. Here, with properly equipped class rooms, workshops, laboratories and library, the student teacher of the future may much more easily meet the complex problems of young adolescents in the schools of the state.

Another phase of college expansion is the increase of both young men and young women in the professional courses, leading to a Bachelor of Science degree in Education. The 1949 graduating class was small, but 1950 has three times as many candidates. Acting upon this need a new full-time faculty member has been engaged in the field of student practice teaching.

Today (1949) another period of expansion is beginning. To quote Dr. Blackwell in a 1948 publication: "The Maryland State Planning Commission, in recommending new buildings and improvements at Maryland State Teachers Colleges, has listed as urgent for Salisbury, the erection of a men's dormitory, a new demonstration school building, an adequate power plant, and garage, and a new library." In addition to the above listed buildings, a men's gymnasium, a recreation building, a President's residence, and a second men's dormitory, are included in the six year Improvement Program as set up by the State Planning Commission. The Legislature of 1949 provided funds for the purchase of twenty-five additional acres of land, one men's dormitory and a garage, plans for which are now being prepared.

In 1949 the Maryland General Assembly not only voted enough money to start the projected building program, but the student body reached its greatest enrollment. Opportunities for training junior high school teachers gave added impetus toward enlarging the school.

Today, the Maryland State Teachers College at Salisbury offers two years of general education with a degree of Associate in Arts, and a four year teaching training program with a Bachelor of Science in Education degree. It is looking forward to many more years of increasing educational service. During 1948, the student enrollment was three hundred thirty-three, one hundred seventy young men and one hundred sixty young women, with an additional number from the campus school of one hundred twenty-five. Administrative and faculty personnel numbered forty.

CHAPTER XXXV

Health

The Maryland General Assembly in 1874 gave official recognition to the problem of public health when it provided for the appointment of five physicians as a State Board of Health which was to take "cognizance of the interests of health and life among the people generally." The Board was to conduct inquiries and investigations, gather information, and act as an advisory group in all hygienic and medical matters.¹ In 1880 the personnel of the Board was expanded to seven, its duties outlined in considerable detail, and its powers increased, enabling it to move to abate any nuisance affecting public health by filing an information in court. Also, subject to the written approval of the governor, the board could wield fairly broad powers in combating an emergency in the form of an epidemic or a pestilential disease.²

In 1882 a move toward the decentralization of public health activities was made. The health authority of any town or the justice of the peace of any county was empowered, upon the advice of a qualified physician, to require such cleansing and disinfecting as might check or prevent the further spread of infectious diseases. These authorities could likewise force the removal to a hospital of any person suffering from an infectious disease. There were penalties to be inflicted upon those who might expose their associates to these diseases. Finally, municipalities and counties were authorized, at their discretion, either to build or to contract for the use of a hospital building to care for their sick inhabitants.³

Four years later, in 1886, the power of the State Board of Health was expanded to cover preventive, as distinguished from curative, activities in connection with infectious diseases. At the same time the board of county commissioners in each of the several counties of the state was set up as an *ex officio* local board of health. Each board was to appoint annually "a well educated physician" as county health officer, who would thereby become the secretary and the executive officer of the board of health. This act was designed primarily to transfer part of the active administration of public health activities to the counties.⁴

Full time health service in each county, provided since 1934, is the result of gradual development. In addition to legislation noted above, other important milestones may be mentioned. In 1914 a law was enacted dividing the State into ten Sanitary Districts, each consisting of two or three counties and each in charge of a Deputy Health Officer. Increased functions, making it necessary to decrease the territory covered, resulted in the County Health Department Law of 1922 which opened the way for full-time health departments in individual counties. The health officer must have definite training and could not engage in any activity that might interfere with his duties as health officer. A third law, passed in 1931, increased the number of Sanitary Districts to twenty-three, one in each

county, and authorized the establishment of full-time health service in each county. Every county has had its own full-time health department since 1934. Each county health officer is also the Deputy Health Officer in his district. Through them, the Director of Health exercises supervision over all matters affecting public health in the counties of Maryland.⁵

Since 1931 the county health officer has been appointed only upon the advice and consent of the State Board of Health. He holds his office for four years and may be removed "for cause" at any time by the State Board of Health. He is neither to practice medicine nor to engage in any other activity which would conflict with the performance of his official duties. The health officer makes reports and inquiries as directed by the State Board of Health, and for these purposes may enter any private home or any place of business within the county. He inspects sanitary conditions, enforces public health statutes and regulations, informs himself as to the work of subordinate local health officers, and notes the appearance of any communicable disease within the county. And, although he is both the county health officer and a deputy state health officer, he is to act in his latter capacity in the event of any conflict between the state board and the local board.⁶

County health officers are *ex officio* county registrars of vital statistics, and as such are in charge of the collection of vital statistics in the county. They distribute to all local registrars in each incorporated town and election district the forms supplied by the State registrar of vital statistics, and are required to keep copies of all birth and death certificates.⁷

The County Board keeps records of all contagious or infectious diseases reported to them by local physicians. These records contain the names of all persons sick with infectious or contagious diseases, the localities in which they live, the disease with which they are affected, together with the date of the physicians' reports, the names of the physicians reporting, and the record of quarantine, isolation, disinfection, and other preventive measures.⁸

The State Department of Health has eight bureaus established by Acts of the General Assembly, each of which is responsible for a particular phase of the public health program. These are: (1) the Bureau of Communicable Diseases which studies the source and routes of infection, assists local health authorities and private physicians in the diagnosis of communicable diseases, assists in finding unrecognized or unreported cases, gives advice as to the proper collection of laboratory specimens, and takes proper control measures. (2) The Bureau of Bacteriology, organized in 1912, assists physicians and health officers in the diagnosis of disease incidental to treatment and control. The Bureau controls all laboratory work done in the counties in connection with the diagnosis and control of human illness. The central laboratory is in Baltimore, with branch laboratories in Cambridge, Elkton, Easton, and Salisbury on the Eastern Shore and at other Western Shore points. (3) The Bureau of Chemistry determines the sanitary quality of drinking waters, milk, and food substances; the legality of drug products, pharmaceutical, and medicinal preparations sold to the public. Chemical laboratories are located in Baltimore and at Cambridge. (4) The Bureau of Sanitary Engineering supervises the purity of water throughout the State and examines all sewage, water works, and refuse disposal projects. (5) The Bureau of Vital Statistics registers births and deaths in the State; it receives copies of the marriage and divorce records for statistical tabulation and as a safeguard against destruction of the original records maintained in the counties. (6) The Bureau of Child

Hygiene works through the counties in an advisory and building capacity. It promotes, develops and extends the county programs. Upon request of the County Health Officers, and with the approval of local physicians, arrangements are made for obstetrical and pediatric consultation, clinics, health conferences for infants and pre-school children, and summer round-up clinics for children about to enter schools. (7) The Bureau of Medical Services assists in the medical care of the indigent through a program which includes physician services, diagnostic examinations, nursing homes, dental care and drugs. (8) The Chief of the Bureau of Foods and Drugs is State Foods and Drug Commissioner. This Bureau investigates food and drug products manufactured or sold in the State in order to determine their purity, honesty of labeling, and compliance with the Food and Drug Acts.

Also operating within the Department are eight divisions organized by the State Board of Health: The Division of Industrial Health; the Division of Oral Hygiene that organizes and supervises county and school dental clinics; the Division of Hospital construction program according to the State plan prepared under the Hill-Burton Act; the Division of Personnel and Accounts; the Division of Public Health Nursing; the Division of Legal Administration; the Mental Hygiene Division which provides psychiatric service in areas of the State where no such service is available through the operation of mental health clinics, staffed by psychiatrists, psychologists, and psychiatric social workers working in conjunction with county health officers and public health nurses; the Division of Tuberculosis Services. Through county health officers tuberculosis clinics are conducted in the counties. The Eastern Shore Branch of the State Sanatorium is established at Salisbury, having been placed under the control of the Maryland Tuberculosis Sanatoria in 1928. It is caring for sixty patients from the Eastern Shore, has a staff of 27, and a budget for 1949 of \$75,000.⁹

THE EASTERN SHORE STATE HOSPITAL

The Governor, the Comptroller, and the Treasurer of Maryland are *ex officio* members of the Board of Managers of the Eastern Shore State Hospital at Cambridge. The Governor appoints nine other members, one from each of the counties on the Eastern Shore, for six year terms, one-third being replaced every two years. The hospital is for the care of the mentally ill of the State. Applications for admission are made through the County Commissioners of the county in which the patient is a resident, and on the certificates of two registered physicians who have practised at least five years. The hospital is equipped to care for 500 patients, has a staff of 100, and an appropriation in 1949 of \$388,937.¹⁰

In 1949 (January 9-19), the Baltimore *Sun* printed a series of articles prepared by Howard M. Norton, famed staff member, on conditions within the five Maryland mental hospitals. Entitled, "The Worst Story Ever Told by the Sunpapers," the articles reported unbelievable conditions. Regarding the Cambridge institution, Norton stated that "more time is spent fighting dirt than insanity. The floors are kept clean, the bed sheets are white and odors are subdued. But the patients get scarcely more attention than they did in the 'insane asylums' of the last century. To take care of the 500 inmates there are only three doctors and two registered nurses." Norton wrote articles again in December, 1949, and reported that notable progress was being made to wipe out the bad conditions, which were even worse in the institutions on the Western Shore than at Cambridge. His original articles had brought an outburst of anger and shame from

the Maryland citizenry, and the State Legislature, upon the request of Governor Lane, had made additional appropriations available to correct the situation. No improvement was noticed at Cambridge in curative efforts and the number of nurses had dropped to one. Its superintendent had resigned to "go to a more hopeful hospital in another state." No deep insulin-shock therapy had been given since 1941, with no prospect of getting it started again. Crowded conditions prevailed. Isolation of this institution was blamed for the shortage of professional personnel, as was a small budget. Better conditions were hoped for when the projected \$600,000 infirmary becomes a reality.¹¹

DEERSHEAD HOSPITAL

Deershead Hospital, recently constructed by the State, is located a few miles north of Salisbury. State-owned and state-controlled, its facilities call for 300 beds for chronically-ill citizens of Maryland and particularly of the Eastern Shore. At the time of this writing the hospital has not been opened, but is expected soon to be ready for operation.

STATE-AIDED INSTITUTIONS

There are five hospitals on the Eastern Shore which receive some State aid. In 1949 the Cambridge Maryland Hospital, Inc. received \$11,760; the Kent and Upper Queen Anne's General Hospital \$4,704; the Memorial Hospital at Easton, Maryland, Inc. \$19,404; the Peninsula General Hospital at Salisbury \$47,334; and the Union Hospital of Cecil County \$11,270.¹²

Securing adequate physicians for private practise has been a major problem in some Eastern Shore counties. Some counties definitely need more physicians today.

HEALTH PROBLEMS AND THE SCHOOLS

Health protection and disease prevention activities are carried on in the public schools on the invitation of the school authorities. These cover a wide range and constitute an important part of the health program in each county. They are concerned primarily with the general health supervision of the children in the elementary grades, the prevention or control of communicable diseases in the school, the protection of children against certain infectious diseases and the sanitary supervision of water supply systems and of sewage disposal arrangements. Dental clinics and the physical examination of children approaching school age on preparation for their admission to school, under the joint auspices of the county departments of health and the county superintendents of schools, are also included in the regularly organized school program.

The services for crippled children, the mental hygiene clinics, and the services under the direction of the county departments of health for the discovery and follow-up care of incipient cases of tuberculosis supplement the program. In addition to physical examinations of school children, services of the County Department of Health in co-operation with the county school authorities include the following: immunization against diphtheria, typhoid fever, smallpox and scarlet fever; tests for tuberculosis; physical examinations of pre-school children; mental

hygiene clinics; services for crippled children. Through the generosity of a resident of Queen Anne's County in 1938 funds were provided for a three year's demonstrational program of venereal disease control in that county.¹³

NOTES, CHAPTER XXXV

1. *Laws of Maryland*, 1874, Ch. 200.
2. *Laws of Maryland*, 1880, Ch. 438.
3. *Laws of Maryland*, 1882, Ch. 155.
4. *Laws of Maryland*, 1886, Ch. 22.
5. *Laws of Maryland*, 1914, Ch. 742; 1922, Ch. 483; 1931, Chs. 134, 160. See also *Maryland Manual*, 1948-1949, p. 64 *et seq.*
6. *Laws of Maryland*, 1914, Ch. 675.
7. *Laws of Maryland*, 1898, Ch. 312; 1912, Ch. 696; 1914, Ch. 747; 1916, Ch. 691.
8. *Laws of Maryland*, 1898, Ch. 436; 1916, Ch. 243.
9. *Maryland Manual*, 1948-1949, pp. 64-70.
10. *Ibid.*, 1948-1949, pp. 78-79.
11. *Baltimore Sun*, December 11, 1949. *Evening Sun*, November 21, 1949.
12. *Maryland Manual*, 1948-1949, p. 177.
13. Information obtained from Dr. E. Clarke Fontaine, former High School Supervisor of The Eastern Shore of Maryland.

The Early Architecture of the Eastern Shore

Henry Chandlee Forman*

The story of the colonial architecture of the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia is a long one; and if it were to be described fully, several volumes, with copious illustrations, would be required. This brief essay outlines the three principal styles of architecture flourishing between the approximate dates, 1620 and 1780, with some account of their development and their sources. These styles are: the Medieval, the Transitional, and the Georgian. Further, mention is made of the persistence of the first style, the Medieval, into the eighteenth century.

I. THE MEDIEVAL STYLE (C. 1620—C. 1700)

The people of the Eastern Shore in colonial times were overwhelmingly of British birth or descent, and consequently it is to the British Isles that one must look for architectural origins. It has been shown that almost as late as the year 1700, the traditional late Gothic or Tudor style of medieval architecture continued to flourish throughout England, especially in the northern and western rural districts of that country. After the erection of Sir Inigo Jones' Italian palace-styled Whitehall in London in 1622 there were a number of edifices built in the new, classical manner, during the remainder of that century, but they were comparatively rare. Besides, it was not the rich burgher or blue-blood that was the usual run of Eastern Shore settler, but the poor dirt farmer or penny-come-quick tradesman. Therefore the architecture of the Eastern Shore, as represented by the houses, churches, barns, stores, windmills, and dozens of other kinds of buildings were fashioned in the seventeenth century in the true manner of the Middle Ages. Details of the Jacobean style of architecture did not creep into Eastern Shore buildings, as they did into Western Shore structures,—at least as far as present research has disclosed. The architecture is as purely Gothic as Canterbury Cathedral or Compton Wynyates in England.

In Virginia, the first English architecture on the Eastern Shore commenced in 1623 at "The Towne" on the Secretary's Land at the mouth of King's Creek; in Maryland, in 1631 at William Claiborne's Plantation, Kent Fort, on Kent Island. It is probable that the buildings of these settlements were of palisade, puncheon, cruck, timber-framed, or brick construction, such as flourished before 1620 along the James River. At least we are certain that both places were surrounded by palisade walls as a protection against Indian attack. Further, the first church on the Eastern Shore of which we have record, located at the mouth of King's Creek and

* Dr. Forman is professor, and head of the Department of Art, Agnes Scott College. He is author of *The Architecture of the Old South; Jamestown and St. Mary's: Buried Cities of Romance; Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland; and The Turner Family of 'Hebron' and Betterton, Maryland.*

dated 1640, was "of insignificant dimension, constructed of roughly riled logs [i. e., vertical timbers, since log cabins as we know them were then unknown] cemented loosely with wattle [interwoven twigs plastered or daubed with clay]." This description probably indicates the puncheon method of construction.

That some of these early structures had thatched roofs, like those employed on the medieval cottages of England, seems certain from the historic record of a "Thatched house" in 1656 in Kent County, Maryland. Most of the roofs, however, were probably of wooden shingles, slate or tile.

In the seventeenth century the manor and plantation houses were usually built a few feet back from the tidal rivers, with rows of outbuildings strung out either along the river bank or at the rear. The rivers were the highways, and the houses depended upon them. Very prosperous lords of the manor or plantation masters owned stables, barns, slave quarters, kitchens, arbors, offices, schools, dairies, smoke houses, dovecots, spinning houses, and the like. Estates were to all intents and purposes self-sustaining. Supplies which the Colony did not produce came from England and were landed directly at the wharf in front of the main building. That the kitchen building was placed at a distance from the dining room was due to no color-line qualification, but to the old medieval custom of carrying meals across the kitchen courtyard.

Frequently in the seventeenth century the kitchen was tied in with the main house by a colonnade—having columns—or by a covered passageway known as a "curtain." The kitchen-curtain appendage was especially prevalent on the lower Eastern Shore. Occasionally a series of quaint additions would be placed so as to fill the space between main dwelling and separate kitchen, such as occurred at *White Hall* in Talbot County.

One very noticeable difference between Eastern and Western Shore is the lack of the chimney-pent or projecting ingle-nook motif on the former. Eastern Shore colonists preferred smooth gables with flush chimneys.

The development of the country house of medieval style may be traced as follows: first, there is the "one-bay" type, represented by *Pear Neck*, in Accomack County, Virginia. This is a one-room and loft cottage, timber-framed and clap-boarded except on the chimney gable-end, where brick with glazed headers set in inverted-V designs is the material. The cottage is only sixteen feet by twenty, corresponding to the one-bay size laid down in the England of the Middle Ages. The chimney is a huge "pyramid," and has a well designed cap with careful mouldings. A few courses below the cap is a brick, dated "1672." This little abode serves to introduce us to the whole group of one-bay houses built up and down the Shore which have now largely disappeared.

Second, there next appeared the "hall-and-parlor" house, a type represented by two buildings destroyed in recent years, *Clay's Neck* (c. 1679) and *The Ending of Controversie* (c. 1670), both of Talbot County. When he acquired more wealth and larger family, the early tobacco planter enlarged the one-bay contraption, which comprised merely the "hall," or "great hall," as it was called in England, by adding a small room, the "parlor." *Clay's Neck*, a little storey-and-half cottage, twenty feet by thirty-seven in size, had brick gable-ends and timber-framed long sides, with flush chimneys and small "lie-on-your-stomach" windows in the attic. That great pioneer of religious freedom, Wenlocke Christison, owned a plantation dwelling much like *Clay's Neck*. This was *The Ending of Controversie*, known for its palisade type of wall made of random-width vertical boards nailed to ordinary timber-framing. Inside, the house had the features characteristic

of the period: "break-neck" winding staircases beside fireplaces large enough to burn seven-foot logs, open beam ceilings, partitions of thin boards, tiny bedrooms tucked away under the eaves, and "lie-on-your-stomach" windows. Originally there were probably leaded casements. All these motifs are characteristic of medieval England.

It is a natural step to the third medieval type, the central-passage cottage, because all the colonist had to do was to add a board partition to the end of his "hall" in order to make a cross-passageway in the center of the house. *My Lord's Gift*, built about 1658 by Colonel Henry DeCourcy in Queen Anne's County, a timber-framed abode now much altered, and *Make Peace* (c. 1663), of brick, located in Somerset County, are typical examples.

As far as present research reveals, no house of the fifth type, the cross-dwelling, has been discovered on the Eastern Shore, although there are several on the west side of Chesapeake, both in Virginia and Maryland. An old record, however, tells of one Southey Littleton who had a home in Accomack County, Virginia, with a porch on the front and a porch chamber above, two characteristic features of the cross-house. There was usually, although not always, a stair tower or wing of some kind at the rear of the cross-dwelling. The stair towers existing on present Eastern Shore houses are probably all of the eighteenth century.

The churches of the seventeenth century were erected at first along the banks of the rivers, so that rowers could bring their master, his family, and guests easily to church on Sunday. Later, when trails and narrow dirt roads were laid down through the pine forests, the "crossroads" church came into being as the focal point among a group of plantations. The churches themselves were either timber-framed or brick. The first and the second *Hungar's Church* on the Eastern Shore of Virginia were of sawn and hewn lumber. The prized brick church, however, is *Old Trinity* (c. 1680), on Church Creek, Dorchester County, designed on a cross plan, with semi-circular apse carrying a conical roof. At present, this fane is T-shaped, with buttresses on one side and pointed-arched windows—all medieval features. In Talbot County stands the so-called *Rich Neck Manor Chapel* (c. 1649?), which may have been a little brick structure erected for Roman Catholic worship on the manor. It has a barrel vault within, and on the front are Gothic-styled quatrefoil sunken panels and ogee arches over window and door. At the top of the façade were once crenellations. It is hoped that someday a complete study of this interesting little building will be made.

Among the Religious Society of Friends, meetinghouses were early erected on Eastern Shore. The type seems to be represented by Old Cecil Meeting (c. 1696), Still Pond, Kent County, which before its destruction was cared for and preserved by the writer's great-grandfather, Richard Townsend Turner, Senior, and one other family. It was a small brick structure with two entrance doors close together, leading to a room divided by sliding partitions, because in those days Quaker men and women usually held business meetings separately. According to the records, there was once an "Inside hanging Chimly," a contraption which was the hood of a wooden fireplace. In the early part of the seventeenth century the landscape of the Eastern Shore was dotted with wooden chimneys, but, as far as is known, all of them have disappeared, like the leaded casement windows of wood and wrought-iron which were once prevalent.

Old Third Haven Friends Meeting, built of wood in 1682, near Easton, Talbot County, was originally sixty feet long by twenty-two wide, divided into two equal parts by sliding doors. After 1797 the meetinghouse became assymetrical

when a twelve-foot addition was made to one long side. On the interior the medieval post-and-beam construction is visible, as well as the boxed winding stair to the attic, where guests were housed in times of great religious services. Third Haven is believed to have some of the earliest sliding sash windows now existing in Maryland.

2. THE TRANSITIONAL STYLE (c. 1680–c. 1730)

At the end of the seventeenth century, the Eastern Shoreman, living usually in his medieval cottage, simple and unadorned, rarely changed his style of abode to that of a great hipped-roof Georgian mansion, with four large rooms to a floor and stair hall running through from front to back, and perhaps with wings or dependencies to balance. There is now sufficient evidence, which this writer has recently collected, to prove that there existed a new style of architecture—the Transition—which formed a kind of cross between Medieval and Georgian.

This transitional stage was marked in style by various forms of experimentation. Perhaps the most typical shape of house is the “cell” dwelling, meaning that the early builder took his little narrow medieval cottage and added a tiny room or two at the rear. As far as is known these miniature chambers were not called “cells” in America, but in England people spoke of them as “cells” or “aisles.” The use of the word “aisle” came from the parish church, which often added a side aisle in order to take care of more parishioners. In Eastern Shore dwellings such elongated back rooms afforded additional bedroom space to the cramped attic; and also, at least in the earlier part of the century, the steep medieval gable was thrown off center, causing what was known in Great Britain as the “catslide” roof, where the rear portion of the roof extends low to the ground.

On the Eastern Shore there are found “cell” types of houses in *White Hall* (c. 1680-90), Talbot County; *Walnut Grove* (1683), Queen Anne’s County; the *Reward*, or *Walnut Point* (c. 1704), Kent County; and *Dahl’s Swamp*, or *Topping House*, of the early eighteenth century, in Accomack County, Virginia. It may be observed that the diagonal or catercornered fireplace is characteristic of the first three of these examples, and may be considered a feature of transitional work, which was later carried over to the Georgian style.

But we find that not all transitional buildings had “cells.” Sometimes the mark of experimentation may be identified by new features. For one thing, the colonist sometimes made his dwelling-house two full storeys high, at the same time keeping to the customary medieval narrowness. The gable-ends of such homes, their tall chimneys rising far above the trees, emphasize a strong Gothic verticality. Worcester County possesses a splendid example, brick *Genezir*.

At other times the early settler changed the shape of the roof of his storey-and-loft cot. Dissatisfied with his tiny attic where head bumps were frequent because of the sloping ceilings, he instituted the gambrel roof—the mistakenly called “Dutch” roof—which has two slopes on two sides. Accordingly, the former squeezed-up attic became much more spacious, and a greater comfort was attained. Recent research reveals that the gambrel was introduced into the Colonies in the 1680s, but did not become really widespread until the 1730s. The Eastern Shore possesses a large number of gambrel-roofed dwellings, such as: the *Reveal West House* (c. 1700), in Accomack County, Virginia; the *Addison Homestead* and *Eyre Hall*, in Northampton County, Virginia; *Godlington Manor* (c. 1680-90)

and *Lamb's Meadows* (1733), in Kent County; and *Paul Jones House* (1733) and *Pemberton Hall* (1741), both in Wicomico County. One of the most curious specimens is *Saulsbury House* (late seventeenth century) in Talbot County, where the gambrel lies across the short sides of the house, causing the ridge or crown of the roof to be raised much higher than usual—an arrangement definitely pointing to the experimental-mindedness of the builder. In Kent County is still another queer specimen, the *Comegys House*, “gambrelized” on the front, but with a “catslide” on the rear, covering “cells.” Such a house is doubly transitional.

3. THE GEORGIAN STYLE (c. 1700-c. 1790)

The first half of the eighteenth century in domestic and church building on the Eastern Shore was largely marked by the advent of a new style, the pseudo-classical Georgian, which Sir Christopher Wren, greatest of English architects, had initiated in England in the late seventeenth century, and which reached its full flower in the reign of Queen Anne and after. For the most part known for his monumental work, like Hampton Court, Wren was called upon to design small, commodious dwelling-houses around the English countryside for the middle classes. As a consequence, a host of architects and craftsmen followed his leadership in producing the “Queen Anne” Georgian, which was to affect profoundly Eastern Shore architectural ideas. Further, the influence of the English plan books, such as Leoni's *Designs for Buildings*, published in London in 1726, or James Gibbs' *Book of Architecture, Containing Designs of Buildings and Ornaments*, which followed two years later, also must have played an important part in designs on the Shore.

In England a good example of the Early Georgian style in minor domestic architecture is the Moot House, Downton, Wiltshire, built in 1650 in the style of Wren. It is brick, two full storeys, rectangular in plan, with hipped roofs and dormers, stone quoins at the corners, large sash windows with wide white trim. The central part of the façade projects outward slightly, in order to emphasize the symmetry of the house and to make an excuse for putting up a pediment with modillions above the eaves. The main doorway is elaborately ornamented with a circular, broken pediment. The building is approached through a brick gateway with wrought-iron bars and curlycues. Over all hangs the atmosphere of correct manners, elegant refinement, and comfortable living.

In the Early Georgian on the Eastern Shore there are a few types, the earliest one perhaps being represented by *Bolingly* (1733) at Queenstown, in Queen Anne's County. In its two-storey slenderness of gable it possesses something of the Transition, but the emphasis on balanced windows and wide central passageway, fifteen feet by eighteen, flanked by rooms of exactly equal size, initiates a distinct Georgian flavor. On the same order of planned house, still one room thick, is *Almodington* (c. 1733), which is one of the earliest examples to sprout an “ell” at the rear.

Closer to Wren-styled Moot House is the brick *Lewis House*, on Nanticoke River, Dorchester County, which dates from the first half of the eighteenth century. The plan is a simple block, with four rooms to a floor, the stair taking up one of the front rooms—an arrangement found repeatedly on the Shore,—and a central passage reaching from front to back. In very low and swampy ground, such as that on which the Lewis House stands, the first floor is raised high, usually

about four feet. There is a central projection on the façade with a modillioned pediment over, very much like the English prototypes. The chimneys are flush with the gables, and the kitchen, before its destruction, was a separate dependency, fourteen feet from the house.

How the rich early Georgian planter decorated his great room, which corresponds to our living room of today, is indicated by the panelled period room, per-



"Almodington," Somerset County

haps as early as 1730, in the Brooklyn Museum of Art, New York. The panelling was stripped from an earlier house by the name of *My Lady Sewall's Manor* (c. 1661), in Dorchester County. The chamber is wainscoted on all sides as high as the ceiling. Bolection mouldings are used for chair rail and mantel trim. The panels are small rectangles, the largest being placed in its customary position in the over-mantel. A heavy cornice runs around the room at the ceiling line. Balancing each other on either side of the fireplace are two closet doors, the tops and panels of which have baroque curves.

Other, simpler farmhouses had plain plaster walls, sometimes tinted, and small reeded mantels.

The second half of the eighteenth century—that is, from about 1750 to 1780—is generally characterized on the Eastern Shore by the Late Georgian. In England this style was marked by Palladian motifs—that is, pseudo-classic features originally created by the sixteenth-century Italian architect, Andrea Palladio—and by mansions with *attached wings* or "*curtained dependencies*". The Eastern Shoreman, who built his domicile from the current style books, usually scaled down his home because of the expense. While some of the great plantation houses in Maryland seem large, they can scarcely be compared with the great Anglo-

Palladian villas in England, such as Sir John Vanbrugh's Blenheim, of 1706, about four hundred and seventy feet long. At the end of the Late Georgian in England came the refined, Pompeiian style of the Adam brothers, Robert and James, which brought a strong "Adamesque" influence to the Eastern Shore after the American Revolution.

The attached-wing type is common on the Eastern Shore. There are at least two examples in Talbot County: *Pleasant Valley* (1743) and *Ratcliffe Manor* (c. 1749). They were probably designed by an architect by the name of John Ariss, an Englishman, who is known to have inserted in 1751 a notice in the *Maryland Gazette*, and to have planned in Virginia the great mansions Mount Vernon, Mount Airy, and Kenmore.

At Pleasant Valley the stairway is located in the front right-hand room, as is the usual custom on the Shore; but at Ratcliffe Manor there is a little passageway which runs behind the stairway placed in the usual position. In these two homes we find ourselves in the land of refined, rich panelling, of semi-circular cabinets with curlycue shelves, of wide stairways with delicately turned balusters, and of bannisters with "saddles." Especially are the mouldings of the panelling of Pleasant Valley done in an almost Adamesque manner. Other examples of the attached-wing type are *Reeds Creek* (c. 1775), in Queen Anne's County, and *Bowman's Folly*, in Accomack County, Virginia. The latter is a timber-framed mansion with a small columned porch at the front door and a Palladian window above, on the second floor. Although later in date than the scope of this article, *Wickwire* (c. 1800), in Cecil County, has attached wings at each gable.

The use of the colonnade and curtain continued from the seventeenth century, but these features were developed to make a grand house, and fitted well the rich planter's dream of an ostentatious mansion. At first there was one colonnade or curtain, tying in usually a two-storey kitchen dependency, as at the *Dr. Ballard*, or *Lockerman House* (c. 1770-80), in Somerset County. Here, the colonnade before its destruction had four columns on the river side, but a wall at the back. The tradition of curtain and two-storey kitchen is continued at *Kings-ton Hall* in Somerset County and *Beverly*, in Worcester County.

It was not long before the tobacco planter or rich merchant discovered that a residence of five-part composition could be made by placing a curtained dependency on both sides of his main house—and there it is: the culmination of the early architecture of the Eastern Shore. *Hope House*, of the late eighteenth century, and *The Anchorage* (perhaps c. 1770), both near Easton, Talbot County, exemplify the love of the Shoreman for a balanced design in five parts. At Hope House, however, the shape of the curtains have been changed.

The Western Shore of both Maryland and Virginia possesses five-part edifices in the manner of the articulated planning of the Anglo-Palladian style, but it remained for the Eastern Shore to do one better: the seven-part composition, perhaps the only example of its kind in America. This is wooden *Wye House* (c. 1782), noted home of the Lloyd family, in Talbot County. By this time, the end of the Revolutionary War, the gables, both of central block and of connected dependencies, faced the approach front and were changed into types of classical pediments. The façade of Wye House is about two hundred feet long, and the dependencies contained offices on one side and library on the other. At the back of the house is the glass-house Orangery, its walls marked by Palladian rustication and flat- and round-arched windows with key-stones. In Queen Anne's County *Kenmersley*, or *Finlay Farm* (c. 1780-90), is another example of a great Shore mansion with the gables facing the approach.

Several of these great houses had, and still have, boxwood gardens laid out usually in a symmetrical manner between house and river. For example, Perry Hall Plantation, in Talbot County, has its lawn divided in the middle by a wide grassy alley with twelve great boxwood rectangles—not squares, as is popularly believed—on one side, and twelve on the other. At the end of the green sward was a boat wharf.

The Eastern Shore also has many examples of the town house of Georgian style. In Snow Hill, for instance, stands a superior example, *Chanceford*, or *Ingleside*, shaped to fit a narrow lot. The modillioned gable of the main block faces the street, and the stair hall runs all along the front of the house. Nearby in the rear is a two-storey dependency, which contains a ballroom, twenty feet by twenty-two. On the outskirts of East New Market, Dorchester County, there is another example of this kind of town house, but without the ballroom building: *Goose Creek Farm*. Towns like Chestertown, Centreville, and Easton, are full of interesting brick houses, mostly omitted here for lack of space. Laid out in 1706, Chestertown became at the end of the eighteenth century the most important town on the Shore. One of the most affluent city houses is *Wide Hall* (1762), situated in a walled garden overlooking the river. Facing the water is a two-storey porch of colossal Ionic order, probably added after the Georgian period had come to a close. Inside the square, hipped roof mansion, lies a wide hallway with handsome stairway which gives the building its name. Another important building in Chestertown is *The Abbey*, or *Pearce House*, or *Ringgold House* with its double or “antler” stairs, and its richly carved panelling, some of which now adorns the Baltimore Museum of Art.

Most of the Georgian churches erected on the Eastern Shore are, like some of their seventeenth-century predecessors, crossroads churches, standing lonely as sentinals in the pine forests. Practically all are of handsome brick, laid in Flemish bond, and are of rectangular shape, without towers or belfries. Writers note their “barn-like” appearance.

The usual type, the plain rectangular, is represented by examples in both Maryland and Virginia. Possessing round-headed windows and doors are *Old Rehobeth* or *Makemie's Church* (1706) in Somerset County, built by the Reverend Francis Makemie, the leading establisher of the Presbyterian faith in America; *All Hallows* (1756), in Snow Hill, Worcester County; and the third *Hungar's Church* (1751), in Northampton County, Virginia. It was customary to place a door not only in the west or approach gable-end of these churches, but sometimes, as at Rehobeth and the third Hungar's Church, in the middle of the long side as well. That they appear like barns may well be believed, because the third Hungar's Church is about ninety feet long by forty feet wide on the inside—one of the largest in all Virginia. The windows and doors have excellent circular transom-lights with foliated muntins, set within arches of rubbed brick conspicuously displaying stone keystones. The interior is divided into the customary aisles and white pews, and the original ceiling was of the barrel-vault type.

Other rectangular churches are *Green Hill*, or *St. Bartholomew's* (1733), in Wicomico County, and *St. Martin's* (1759), in Worcester County, both possessing flat-arched windows and doorways. Each of these churches stands in lonesome pine woods, but originally Green Hill Church adorned a lot in a town of the name of Green Hill which has disappeared. The date in large brick glazed headers decorates the river gable, and there are belt courses of

brick above and below the numerals. The window heads carry segmental relieving arches, of glazed headers, with brick filling in the small space between arch and window frame. While we are on the subject of technical details, the curious sunken ogee panels on the rubbed-brick flat arches of St. Martin's should be mentioned. These ogee curves are sunk about a half inch into the brick, and mark a hang-over from the Jacobean style of architecture of the early seventeenth century.

Some Georgian churches on the Eastern Shore still carry a semicircular apse, which is actually an example of the persistence of medieval style. ApSES are found at *Old St. George's*, *St. Pauls*, and *St. Lukes*. The first, Old St. George's or Pungoteague, in Accomack County, Virginia, now much changed in appearance, was originally called by the neighborhood planters the "Ace of Clubs" Church, because of its floor plan. According to recent research, it was erected in 1738, and had a mansard roof, except on the side toward the apse. Accounts have it that the pews had very high backs and the floor was tile. The apse and the main walls of rectangular St. Paul's Church (rebuilt 1713), in Kent County, were probably part of an original seventeenth-century structure. The old records mention the apse as "a circle at the east end," a description which fits well. St. Paul's is unique in having a little brick Vestry House (1766), still preserved within its cemetery grounds.

At Church Hill, Queen Anne's County, St. Luke's (1730-32), also possesses an apse; but unlike the other churches, it has a gambrel roof.

The church architecture of the Georgian style on the Eastern Shore was the product more of utility and function than of an endeavor to ornament religion by impressive baroque monuments.

4. PERSISTENCE OF THE MEDIEVAL STYLE INTO THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

While the Georgian style of architecture held the ascendancy on the Eastern Shore between 1720 and 1780, the style of the Middle Ages which flourished in an almost pure form during the seventeenth century, persisted generally throughout this region far more than anyone has hitherto realized. The same type of small, narrow storey-and-loft cottage continued to be built on the farms *both* as plantation houses in their own right *and* as dependencies on the great plantations. The main lines of these homes, such as the *Fisher House*, in Northampton County, Virginia, the *Core Homestead*, and the *Thomas Thornton House* (or *William Beavens House*, now destroyed), both in Accomack County, Virginia, *Lloyd's Landing Farm*, and the *Leonard* or *Vaillant House*, both in Talbot County, are primarily in the Gothic style except for minor details, such as cornices, window and door trims, and stair mouldings, which tend toward classical Renaissance profiles. In addition, there are medieval types having stair towers at the rear, such as those at *Clover Fields* (c. 1730), in Queen Anne's County, and *Combsberry*, of about the same date, in Talbot County. The former mansion has not only a belted course of brick which at the gable-ends makes an upside-down "battlemented" design in medieval fashion, but also two groups of triple, "square," separated chimney stacks in the approved Tudor manner.

Another eighteenth-century dwelling with a medieval type of chimney is brick *Winona*, a little storey-and-loft house in Northampton County, Virginia, which, from its style of architecture, dates after 1700, and probably about 1720. *Winona* has three detached "diamond" stacks, like those on the well-known

Bacon's Castle in Surry County, Virginia. Chimneys with "withes," which are vertical brick projections on the stacks, in true Gothic form, stand on *Caulk's Field* (1743) and a few other Kent County dwellings.

The appearance of the ordinary dependency of a great Georgian mansion still kept to medieval shapes, even though the residence itself fairly bulged with modillioned cornices and classical pilasters. The little smoke houses, the barns, the flax houses, the corn cribs, the smithies, the quarters, the dovecots, and many other kinds of outbuildings were constructed almost exactly like their predecessors of the previous century, the seventeenth. It is well for us not to forget that the great formal residences, climax of the Colonial style of building on the Eastern Shore—piles which lifted their proud heads above fragrant box-wood gardens and well-trimmed driveways—could not escape the medieval heritage, as shown in the cottages encircling them.

Eastern Shore of Maryland Literature

*By Donald L. Ball**

I. INTRODUCTION

Literature provides us with an invaluable medium through which we are able to grasp a true picture of the culture of a particular area. It is unfortunate that the study of it for relatively small regions of this nation has not been attempted with any amount of objectivity until only recently. For in addition to presenting a cultural picture, it fortifies our regional histories with a sort of "third dimension" that allows us to see right into the very heart of the community. In accordance with the general tendency, the literature of Maryland's Eastern Shore has never been treated and this writing is the first attempt at such a study.

Essentially a rural tidewater community which, up until the turn of the century, enjoyed a relatively long period of semi-isolation, the Eastern Shore of Maryland has produced no great body of "native literature." As the birthplace of John Dickinson, the "penman of the Revolution," it has produced only one literary figure whose name yet lives in the annals of American literary history. Although it has played some part in the lives of three other fairly important American writers, it has not produced one outstanding literary figure who chose to remain on the Shore for the greater part of his life. Lacking in both urban centers and great seats of learning, it has had no influential local circles or schools of literary interest and activity. Although its scenery and people have been treated by a great number of "outsiders," it has had no regionalists and local colorists, like Mary E. Wilkins Freeman of New England and George Washington Cable of New Orleans, to portray effectively its flavor and color to the world at large. In spite of all these things, it does have a literature which, while it contains no "masterpieces," does, in its entirety, present an interesting and fairly comprehensive picture of the life and culture of its land and people.

In obtaining a picture of the Shore's literature that is at all comprehensive, it has been necessary to take several elements into consideration. Certainly the literary work of all of the native writers, whether they spent much time on the Shore or not, is essential to this picture. Another important element is the writing of long time residents of the Shore. Incidentally, it is, in many cases, in the pages of their writing that we find much that has been written about the charm of the area. The literary work about the Shore and about its native sons by "out-

* A resident of both Salisbury and Ocean City, Maryland, Mr. Ball received his B.A. from the University of Richmond in 1948. He is now completing requirements for an M.A. in English at the University of Delaware. Further details of his life may be found under the name of his father, Ambrose M. Ball, in Volume Three of this work.

siders" is also of great importance. In some cases, parts of prose works and poetry in which the scenery and action is laid on the Shore have been included. These are of value in that they give us some idea of what part this section of Maryland has played in the events of the outside world. In at least two instances, they present treatment of Shore scenery and action as it is handled by professional and accomplished writers.

On the whole the quality of Eastern Shore literature is, at best, but mediocre. Although there are a few outstanding works that will be long remembered, by Eastern Shoremen at least, there are many titles that have been long forgotten or have never been known at all by the world at large. The Eastern Shore is no exception to the general rule that local literature, while it can be good, wholesome, entertaining reading, is seldom of superior quality. Its value as a contribution to the understanding of the area and its culture, rather than as a literary work, is what must be determined in this instance.

The close proximity of the nine counties of Maryland to the two of Virginia and the three of Delaware on the peninsula has necessarily caused some overlapping of literary property in this area. In George Alfred Townsend's *The Entailed Hat*, we find stories belonging to both Maryland and Delaware. For Townsend himself, we find a claim from both legal jurisdictions. In Roland W. Nelson's *The Unpolished Diamond*, we have a story that, although it is laid on the island of Tangier, which is a part of Virginia, contains much in its pages that is characteristic of that part of Maryland which lies nearby.

The fact that the Eastern Shore was for many years semi-isolated and of a completely rural makeup can be seen in the development of its literature. In almost every case, it has been late to appear on the scene with the bulk of it coming after the turn of the century. Because of this trend, romantic fiction has been all but left out of the picture. During the romantic period and its aftermath, when literature in this country was flourishing, the Shore was producing little or no literature. It was not until the second quarter of this century, that Shore literature was produced in any quantity. As a somewhat picturesque refuge from the metropolitan Eastern United States, but still close and available to it, the Eastern Shore has attracted several writers to its shores in recent years. Perhaps the best known of these is Hervey Allen, famed for his *Anthony Adverse* (1933), who up until a few years ago maintained a summer home at "Bonfield" near Oxford. Another is Leslie Turner White, a writer of historical adventure novels, who spends part of each year in his schooner at Oxford. A writer of some importance who was educated and later taught at Washington College in Chestertown is James M. Cain, best known for his *Mildred Pierce*.

Although the result of extensive research for source material, this article does not pretend to present a picture of Shore literature that is thoroughly exhaustive. As it is the first attempt to write on a subject on which nothing of consequence has been written for over three hundred years, there are, doubtless, items which should be included and which are not. It can be said, however, that every effort has been made to present a picture that is both representative and comprehensive. The sources of information that have been especially helpful and for which the author wishes to express his gratitude are: the facilities of the Maryland Department of the Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore; the *Bulletins* and the circulating library of the Eastern Shore Society of Baltimore City; and the facilities of the Talbot County Library at Easton and of the Bunting Memorial Library at Washington College, Chestertown.

2. HISTORICAL FICTION

The production of historical fiction dealing with Eastern Shore themes has been somewhat spasmodic. With the exception of several novels which appeared around the turn of the century, the bulk of it has been produced within the past twenty-five years. During the past decade, in particular, the history of the Shore has provided fertile ground for several novelists and, if the present trend continues, the future holds great promise for the further portrayal of the Shore's history in this form of writing.

Interestingly enough, the struggle of the Calvert and Claiborne colonists for domination of the area around Kent Island in the early part of the seventeenth century is one of the first major themes to appear. In her *Mistress Brent* (1902), Lucy Meacham Thurston has somewhat romantically portrayed the political struggles of a rather powerful woman in the Calvert colony at St. Mary's. In approximately one-third of the narrative the Claiborne colony on Kent Island is the scene of action and the brief forays of the members of these two opposing colonies in the waters around the island are well described. Incidentally, the same story received a more realistic treatment in 1944 in Dorothy Fremont Grant's *Margaret Brent—Adventurer*.

In the same vein and a sequel to *Mistress Brent* is Maud Wilder Goodwin's *Sir Christopher* (1901) which continues the story of the conflict from the Calvert side of the Chesapeake. A picture of the situation in the Claiborne Colony is seen in William Henry Babcock's *The Tower of Wye* (1901). Definitely inferior to the other renditions, this novel deals with the settlement and the subsequent defending of the area around Kent Island. The "Tower" happens to be a fort on Wye Island that the colonists used in their battles against Lord Baltimore's "invaders." Although the story is ostensibly based on historical fact, this novel is by no means a standard historical one—it is far too romantic and impractical to represent anything that ever happened in real life.¹

Two other books dealing with the pre-Revolutionary period that are worthy of mention are Neil H. Swanson's *The Judas Tree* (1933) and Andre (Alice Mary) Norton's *Follow the Drum* (1942). The former, which is a realistic picaresque work tells the story of a major in the militia of Lord Baltimore's colony. Although the Chesapeake Bay provides most of the scenery for the book, the position of the Shore during the period is taken into account. In *Follow the Drum*, a juvenile historical romance, the struggles of a young woman to establish an estate on the Sassafras River are depicted. While only about a third of the narrative is laid on the Shore, this novel does present us with what is perhaps the only fictional picture of an actual settlement in this area.

Although it seems that it should be a major theme, the Shore's position during the Revolutionary period appears in only two novels and in one of them but briefly. In Herbert B. Stimpson's *The Tory Maid* (1898), James Frisby, a country gentleman of Fairlee in Kent County, is the major figure. Even though he is ardently in love with the daughter of an Eastern Shore Tory, Frisby fights for the colonists' cause in the war. As practically all of the action is laid on the Shore (in Fairlee, Rock Hall, Chestertown, and Elkton), it is possible to obtain a fairly comprehensive picture of the confusion existing at the time. The quibbling and fighting among the Maryland volunteers, the raiding of the Tory estates, the gentlemanly conduct of the Maryland blades, and the disruption of family and community life are all to be found in this fairly professional work. A relatively brief treatment of the Queen Anne-Kent County region around the time of the war is

rendered in Winston Churchill's *Richard Carvel* (1899). In this novel, which incidentally is in many respects like Thackeray's *Henry Esmond*, roughly one-third of the action takes place on the Shore and the relationship of this region to the capital in Annapolis is well portrayed. As in *The Tory Maid*, the conflict of Patriot and Tory loyalties among the Shore's gentry and the gentlemanly conduct of the young blades of the area are effectively depicted to present the tenseness existing in the region during the Revolutionary period.

An incident of the War of 1812 provides the climax for Gertrude Crownfield's romantic novel *Conquering Kitty* (1935). Primarily a writer of juvenile fiction, Miss Crownfield tells the story of Kitty Knight, a headstrong Eastern Shore Belle, who with two servants, sets up housekeeping for herself at the tender age of twelve. The two villages of Georgetown and Fredericktown on the Sassafras River furnish the scene for Kitty's unhappy romantic experiences. Although she is the "Toast of Maryland," Kitty cannot get the man that she most desires because of her uncontrollable temper. Kitty's chance to use her temper comes when the British forces under Admiral Cockburn stage a raid on the area and burn everything in sight along the river. By her courage and the skillful use of her charm, Kitty manages to save both her house and the one adjacent to it. Although not completely accurate according to history,² the story is a charming one and furnishes a picture of how the presence of the British in the upper part of the Chesapeake Bay affected the residents of the Shore.

Although indirectly related to the Eastern Shore of Maryland, *The Unpolished Diamond* (1930) by R. Nels (Roland H. Nelson) is worthy of mention. In this novel, Nelson has told the story of the effect of the British forces on Tangier Island before they began their raids further up the bay. In it we find the same Admiral Cockburn that visited Georgetown and Joshua Thomas, the Methodist preacher whose biography, *The Parson of The Islands* by Adam Wallace, is discussed in the section on non-fictional prose. The close proximity of Tangier to Maryland and the fact that the book contains some interesting dialect which belongs to an area larger than the island itself make this work of some value to those interested in the extreme southwestern corner of the Shore.

Certainly the major historical theme to emerge in Eastern Shore fiction is the portrayal of *ante-bellum* life in this area. And certainly the greatest single contribution to this portrayal is George Alfred Townsend's *The Entailed Hat* (1884). Although born in Georgetown, Delaware, Townsend (1841-1914) was associated with the Eastern Shore of Maryland throughout the early part of his life. Both his father, who was an itinerant Methodist preacher, and his mother were of Maryland vintage. During his early life, Townsend resided in both Salisbury and Chestertown as well as in parts of Delaware. Primarily a journalist, Townsend achieved a national reputation as a Civil War correspondent and later as a journalist both in the United States and abroad. It was after this successful career that he returned to this area to write *The Entailed Hat* and other prose works and poetry on the Shore scene.

The Entailed Hat can be divided into two almost distinct stories. The first and the one that contains the greatest amount of local color is that of the uncouth but shrewd merchant, Meshach Milbourne, who became the richest man in Princess Anne in the 1820s. Milbourne, who persistently wears the old steeple crown that was entailed to him by his father, mortgages the holdings of the very prominent Judge Custis and gradually forces him to give up the hand of his attractive daughter for payment. In the course of the story much of the life of

the lower Shore during this period is revealed. The operations and subsequent failure of the old bog iron furnace (the ruins of which still stand) at Nassawango, the local color and social structure of old Princess Anne, the evangelical Methodist spirit of the period, the unflinching pride of the blue-blooded society of Maryland, and the flavorful color of the backwoods people of Worcester County are among the various elements that go to make up the atmosphere and background of this unforgettable story.

The second part deals with the infamous Patty Cannon, the slave trader, murderess, and kidnapper who kept an inn at the Maryland-Delaware border near Seaford, and her equally infamous son-in-law, Joe Johnson. In addition to the intriguing Patty Cannon story, there are other elements which further relate this novel to the Shore scene. Some of these are: the perilous journey of a fugitive slave through the Pocomoke swamp, the discussion of what is now the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, the struggle for legal franchises to build railroads on the Shore, and the moral aspects of slavery on the people of this area.

Although *The Entailed Hat* almost defies comparison with any other novel, there are several elements in it which can be used to tie it down somewhat. One is its episodic picaresque nature which is characteristic of Henry Fielding in such novels as *The Adventures of Joseph Andrews*, and *Tom Jones*. Like Fielding, Townsend has his characters going from one episode to another in various parts of the countryside. More important is the influence of the famous Victorian novelist, Charles Dickens, on Townsend's novel. Like Dickens' *David Copperfield*, *The Entailed Hat* portrays a considerable number of versatile and colorful characters moving about on a canvas broad enough and in a situation involved enough to keep the reader's interest at a constant pitch of light suspense. And like Dickens, Townsend effectively labels his characters in the "Hat" to make them indelible in the reader's mind. Certainly few readers will ever forget Milbourne's old hat and Jimmy Phoebus' "Hokey-pokey an' Pangymonium too!" Incidentally Townsend got into trouble with both the people of Princess Anne and the Cannon family of Delaware over the treatment of the characters in his novel. The people of Princess Anne objected to his taking the names of their prominent citizens and giving them to some of his unsavory characters, and the Cannon family objected to his rather harsh treatment of their namesake, if not kin, Patty. So like Thomas Wolfe, Townsend enjoyed the disfavor of those of the area about which he had written.

It is true that much of *The Entailed Hat* is pure fiction with artificiality in both scenery and dialogue. However, it must be admitted that essentially the story is one that is based on fact and one which, in a very entertaining way, ties all of the major occurrences on the Shore in the 1820s into one interesting, if not completely homogeneous, knot. The proof of its popularity lies in the fact that it ran to several editions in the beginning, was revived into several more in the 1920s and promises, if its present popularity continues, to run into more editions in the future.

Townsend's other chief novel is *Katy of Catoctin* (1888), a sequel to the *Entailed Hat*, laid on the Western Shore of Maryland. It is a continuation of the slavery problem up until its culmination with the Civil War and the assassination of Lincoln. Other works of Townsend are his romantic tales: *Bohemian Days* (1880) and *Tales of the Chesapeake* (1880), and his two books of poetry: *Poems* (1870) and *Poems of Men and Events* (1899). These are discussed in the sections on romantic fiction and poetry.

If it is true, as the Cannon family once maintained, that Townsend treated Patty too harshly, then it is probably true that R. W. Messenger in his *Patty Cannon Administers Justice* (1926) has let her off too easily. In either case the contrast between the two versions is so apparent that it seems that the latter was written in retaliation to the former. Mr. Messenger, who was at one time a resident of Salisbury, has presented a “whitewashed” picture of a repenting Patty who is attempting to undo her nefarious past. Although historically inaccurate, the story is an entertaining one with interesting kidnapping scenes and an exciting sailboat battle in the lower Chesapeake Bay. The “justice” that Patty administers is the murdering of her son-in-law, Joe Johnson, so that his evil career of slave kidnapping and other crimes will be brought to a close. While it is far from being a professional piece of writing, this novel does manage to capture some of the color and flavor of the period.

A professional and comprehensive picture of life on the Lower Shore during the 1816-1822 period is presented in *River of Rogues* (1948) by A. R. Beverley-Giddings. Claiming historical accuracy, Mr. Beverley-Giddings tells of a large organization that moved from place to place in the country kidnapping free Negroes and shipping them to the South as slaves—a sort of “Patty Cannon, Incorporated.” The establishment of the organization’s headquarters at Franchot’s Folly on the Nanticoke River and its later destruction by a group of plantation owners from the Somerset County area provide the most exciting parts of the novel’s action. The story is told in the first person by David Innes, a dispossessed young man who after some struggle gains his rightful position as the owner of Fairhope Manor, a plantation on the Annemessex River in the southwestern part of Somerset County. The conflict arises when David marries Jeanne Gervaise, who with her brother Paul later turn out to be the leaders of the kidnapping organization. The story reaches its climax when David leads the group of plantation owners against the “Folly” in which his wife and brother-in-law are hiding. Undoubtedly the finest piece of historical fiction about the Shore to appear since the turn of the century, this novel with its accurate detail and comprehensive description very capably captures the flavor of the not always peaceful days of the ante-bellum period on the Shore. Incidentally, Mr. Beverley-Giddings has recently become a part-time resident of Somerset County. His other novels are *Larrish Hundred* and *Broad Margin*.

Interestingly enough, the other phases of slavery on the Shore which have received the attention of historical novelists are the so-called “underground railroad” and the abolition movement. A realistic picture of the treatment of the slaves in the Talbot County area is presented in Edmund Fuller’s fictional biography of the great Negro abolitionist, Frederick Douglass, entitled *A Star Pointed North* (1946). As Douglass ran away from slavery at an early age to the North, only about a third of the biography has the Shore as its scene. However, in that brief treatment, Fuller has rather vividly portrayed the cruelties of the hired slave “breakers” and the unpleasant reception of a runaway slave at Easton. As the only realistic fictional picture of Eastern Shore slave treatment and as the biography of a native Shoreman of some importance, this book occupies a unique position in the literature of this region.

Devoted to the secretive transporting of slaves to Canada and freedom, the “underground railroad” was, at one time, a fairly active movement on the Shore. In her novel, *A Clouded Star* (1948), Anne Parrish, a Wilmington writer of some distinction, has vividly depicted one long and perilous journey of a group of

Negroes over this imaginary "railroad." Led by Harriet Tubman, an Eastern Shore Negress who was known as the "Moses of her people," the group is seen fighting their precarious way through the swamps and forests of the Shore and then moving onward to Philadelphia and finally to Canada. The unflagging determination of Harriet and the helpful aid of the Quaker sympathizers of the movement are effectively portrayed to make the story almost epical in its effect. This subject also provided the theme for an earlier juvenile novel entitled *The Railroad to Freedom* (1932) by Hildegard H. Swift.

The persistent efforts of historical fiction writers to uncover little known facts of historical importance is highly evident in the publication of Hollister Noble's *Woman with a Sword* (1948). A fictional biography on the order of Irving Stone's *Immortal Wife* of a few years before, this book contains a wealth of information, heretofore unknown, about its subject, Anna Ella Carroll. Although the essential facts of Miss Carroll's colorful life were "laid open" in Marjorie Barstow Greenbie's *My Dear Lady* in 1940, Mr. Noble has gone much further in his research to present an extremely comprehensive picture of her career. Although the Shore is but briefly treated in the plot, the book is of importance to this region in that it is a well written story of one of its most outstanding natives. Born in Kingston Hall in Somerset County, Anna Ella Carroll (1815-1894) rose, by sheer merit alone, to become the great strategist of the Union Army in the Civil War. As the author of the Tennessee River Plan, she is said to have been responsible for the Federal victory in the campaign of the West. An effective writer, Miss Carroll was the author of much of the propaganda of the Lincoln administration. Mr. Noble's book is an excellent example of what historical fiction can do if its subject matter is accurately and effectively portrayed.

3. ROMANTIC FICTION

Although the Romantic Period was a long and productive one in American fiction, the Eastern Shore has little literature that can be rightfully placed in this category. This is doubtless due to the fact that the fiction of this area has been of a relatively recent origin, the bulk of it appearing after the turn of the century when the influences of the period were all but dead. To put romantic fiction in its proper place one has but to think of such great American writers as James Fenimore Cooper, Washington Irving, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Edgar Allen Poe, and Herman Melville. These men, writing in the early part and middle of the last century, gave American fiction the semi-realistic, "out of the ordinary" tone which has always been associated with the word romantic.

The first name worthy of mention in this period is that of Charles Heber Clark (1847-1915) who wrote under the *nom de plume* of Max Adeler. Clark, the son of an Episcopal minister, was born in Berlin but spent the greater part of his life in Philadelphia. Essentially a journalist, he devoted his spare time to political and humorous writing. His most popular book was *Out of the Hurly-Burly or Life in an Odd Corner* (1874), a humorous "sketch book" of life in New Castle, Delaware. His other works include: *Elbow Room*, *In Happy Hollow*, and *By the Bend of the River*.

More important to the Shore scene is George Alfred Townsend's *Tales of the Chesapeake*, a collection of "Tales and Idyls," which appeared in 1880. Written in the true romantic vein, these somewhat fantastic and astounding stories cover a variety of subjects. The two that are of perhaps the greatest interest to

Eastern Shoremen are: "The King of Chincoteague" and "Judge Whaley's Demon." In the former, the austere experiences of a hermit-like Jew on Chincoteague Island are related in a fashion that leads one to believe that the entire story is completely a figment of Townsend's rather vivid imagination. "Judge Whaley's Demon" turns out to be his illegitimate son who haunts him by continually jeopardizing his otherwise good reputation. In the end the Judge and his son are reconciled to each other in spite of the "talk" that it creates. More realistic and feasible than the "King," this story, while it bears an Eastern Shore title, is, more than likely, also a figment of Townsend's imagination. By far the best thing in the collection is the personal essay "Preacher's Sons in 1849." Using fictional names for towns, Townsend has, in this article, very entertainingly related some of his boyhood experiences as a preacher's son on the Shore.

Another prose work of some importance is Townsend's *Bohemian Days* which appeared a year later in 1881. One of his most popular books, this too is a collection of tales. The three that it contains are: "The Rebel Colony in Paris," "Married Abroad," and "The Deaf Man of Kensington." The first two, as their titles indicate, deal with Townsend's experiences as a foreign correspondent in Paris.

A romantic novel that uses the Shore as the locale for a brief part of its narrative is J. S. Willis' *John Martin, Jr.: A Story of the Iron Mask* (1892). This rather fantastic novel is the tale of one John Martin, Jr., of Pine Landing, Maryland, U. S. A., who is supposed to have been the direct descendant of the French royalty that was doomed to wear the Iron Mask. Beyond the fact that this Pine Landing is supposed to have been in T----- County (presumably Talbot), the relationship of this novel to the Shore is relatively unimportant.

A realistic short story writer of this period was Lynn Roby Meekins (1862-1933), a native of Salem in Dorchester County. Meekins, who achieved some prominence in the journalistic field as literary editor of the *Baltimore American* and later as managing editor of the *Saturday Evening Post*, wrote, during his lifetime, over two hundred short stories and articles. A collection of his stories which appeared in 1894 is *The Robbs's Island Wreck and Other Stories*. Although still in the romantic category, these stories exhibit a sentimental human interest element that is comparable to the works of the local colorists and regionalists of the late nineteenth century. In his *Two Booms*, Meekins approaches the style and structure that Bret Harte achieved in his famous *The Luck of Roaring Camp*. To his credit, however, Meekins does not resort to the melodrama that Harte utilizes in his story. In his "In the Early Christmas Morning," Meekins presents a rather realistic story of a strike from the worker's point of view.

More romantic than his short stories is Meekins' novel *Adam Rush* which appeared in 1902. Laid in a country town in Washington County, Maryland, it is the story of family conflict over railroad and property rights. Although a fairly professional work, it is, on the whole, not as effective as his shorter fictions.

A purely romantic tale of a girl raised on an estate on the Wye River is Amy E. Blanchard's *Betty of Wye* (1897). In it we see all of Betty Nelson's loves and heartaches. Aside from the fact that local names are used, there is very little of the color of the area in this book. In the same vein as *Betty of Wye* is the well known *Elsie Dinsmore* (1867), the epitome of all of the "good girls" stories that were so popular in the nineteenth century. Although *Elsie Dinsmore* has nothing about the Shore in it, it is of interest to note that it was, along with the Elsie Mildred Series, the Do Good Library, and the Finley Series, written by

Martha Finley (1828-1909), who was a resident of Elkton from 1876 until her death.

The story of the disintegration of an old Maryland family by the Civil War is presented in Frederick Emory's *A Maryland Manor* (1901). Emory, a native Shoreman who up until his death lived in Centreville, has in this novel very ably written the story of an old family whose manor house is somewhere in tidewater Maryland. With some show of talent, Emory has pictured the family during the trials of the *post-bellum* period in which a poor, but ambitious relative has managed to take over the manor house by foreclosing a mortgage. A capable work, this novel comes fairly close to portraying what life might have been like in an old manor house on the Eastern Shore immediately after the Civil War.

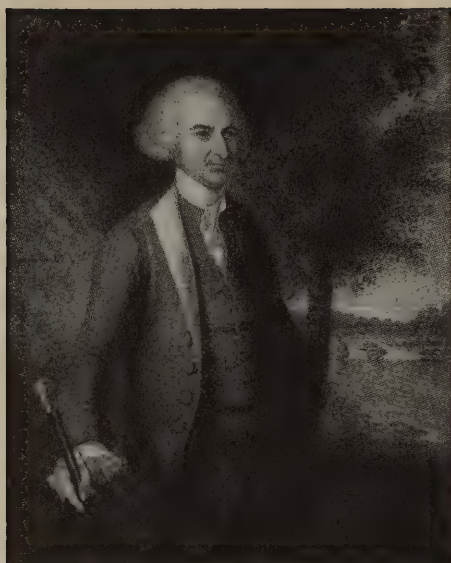
Far inferior to Emory's work is William Henry Babcock's *Kent Fort Manor* (1903), which attempts to tell the story of a border family torn apart by different loyalties during the Civil War. The scene of the action is the family estate, Kent Fort Manor, on Kent Island. Although the situation lays the groundwork for a very good character study, this novel falls short in achieving a portrayal that is at all effective. The characters are unreal and the dialogue is extremely artificial and stilted. No doubt influenced by Sir Walter Scott and James Fenimore Cooper, Babcock has overstressed the romantic aspect of his story to the breaking point.

The last, and incidentally one of the best, pieces of romantic fiction to appear was Martin W. Barr's *The King of Thomond: A Story of Yesterday* (1907). Supposedly a case history of an insane woman, it is the story of a governess who is employed by a mad doctor on Thomond, an island near the mouth of the Chester River in the Chesapeake, to care for his wax daughter. Very much like Charlotte Bronte's famous *Jane Eyre*, the story is narrated in the first person of the governess whose almost incredible experiences are strikingly like Jane's. What local color there is in the book occurs more or less incidentally when the Doctor and his governess go to church in Chestertown and again when they go to a tournament in Queenstown. Although these two treatments are but brief, they do allow us to catch at least a glimpse of life in the region at the time. We see the effects of the strict moral code of the church women of Chestertown, who are moved to object to the governess staying on the island, as well as the "fair like" atmosphere of the Queenstown tournament to which the chivalrous young blades of the area come to compete with their riding talents for the hearts of their beloveds.³

4. REALISTIC FICTION

In striking contrast to the rather meager stock of romantic fiction, realistic fiction has proven, by its substantial contribution, to be one of the most versatile and fruitful of the various fields of literature on the Shore scene. First appearing in the second decade of this century, it reached its fruition in the late thirties. Since that time it has, unfortunately, been on the decline. However, with novelists ever seeking new scenery and more varied canvases on which to develop their themes, it is hoped that, in the future, there will be a revival of activity in this important field of writing.

Interestingly enough, the first realistic work to appear is one of those books about which little is known but which contains, in itself, what is perhaps the greatest amount of local color about an area of the Shore to be found in a single volume. In *The Christian Pirate or Romance and Realities of a Sunny Shore* (1911), Reverend Benjamin Clark Warren and Robert Lincoln Parkinson, as co-authors,



(Courtesy of Dickinson College)

John Dickinson
1732 - 1808



(Courtesy of Susan C. Fowler)

Amelia Ball Coppuck Welby
1819 - 1852



(Courtesy of Sara Cockey)

George Alfred Townsend
1841 - 1914



(Courtesy of Bushke's Studio, N.Y.C.)

Sophie Kerr Underwood
1880 —

have presented an extremely comprehensive picture of life in the Deal's Island area in the last few decades of the nineteenth century. Essentially the story of an upstanding churchgoer of the Island who lives by pirating oyster beds (hence the title—Christian Pirate), this novel touches on many phases of island activity. In it we see the battles of various local factions over oyster rights; the attempts of the Methodist Church with its camp meetings and revivals to ameliorate this unhealthy situation; the pirating of the oyster beds; the Methodist preacher, "Father" Lawrence, who sails from one island to another to preach in his boat, the "Gospel;" the growth of the crab meat industry on the island; and the customs and, with some degree of accuracy, the dialect of the native islanders. Although not a professional work in the literary sense, this book does show that its authors must have been thoroughly acquainted with their subject. One of the authors, Reverend Warren, served as pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church on Deal's Island from 1887 to 1890.

The year 1915 is an important milestone in the literature of this area. For in that year the Shore's most outstanding contemporary writer, Mrs. Sophie Kerr Underwood (1880-), a native of Denton, began the long and productive writing and editing career which, at present, she is still pursuing. Mrs. Underwood, who writes as Sophie Kerr, has to date written twenty novels, over four hundred short stories, a large number of light essays, and several plays. Educated at Hood College in Frederick, Maryland, and the University of Vermont, Mrs. Underwood left Denton over forty years ago to establish herself as a professional writer in New York City. Along with her writing, which has been primarily for the women's magazine market, Mrs. Underwood has worked in magazine editing and at one time was the managing editor of the *Woman's Home Companion*. As a professional short story writer, her position is, indeed, an enviable one.

As a realistic writer of the romantic theme, Mrs. Underwood is both effective and entertaining. Although the majority of her stories are rather light, some of her novels exhibit a talent for spiritual biography which is, in some respects, comparable to that of the late Willa Cather. She is especially good at depicting conflicting personalities by exposing the inner desires of her characters. In general her subject matter deals with the struggles of young men and women who are seeking happiness against almost insurmountable obstacles. Most of her stories are written in the present time, but in some instances she has gone back to as far as the 1870s for her scene. Although she is especially good at depicting young foreigners, most of her stories are about young Americans in America. Her style is extremely simple and, as is typical with many commercial short story writers, she makes effective use of both colloquialisms and provincialisms in her writing.

Of her several novels that are laid on the Shore, the two which include the greatest amount of local color are *One Thing is Certain* (1922) and *Mareea-Maria* (1929). In the former, the story is centered in Eden (which is strikingly similar to Denton) in the latter half of the nineteenth century. The main character is Louellen, a young girl of the town who is in love with Mark, a good-hearted but somewhat reckless young man. As Mark is not approved by the "better" church people, Louellen is forced by social pressure to marry a tyrant who is a deacon in the church. Her married life turns out to be anything but happy and even her children are made to suffer for her "unfortunate" choice. Actually the story is an exposure of the extreme puritanism of the small town people whose lack of tolerance is comparable to that of the people of Salem in Hawthorne's *Scarlet*

Letter. And like Hester Prynne, Louellen has committed the unpardonable sin of adultery with her lover, Mark, after her marriage to the deacon. In this novel it is possible to sense the feel of life in this small Eastern Shore town with its closely knit and highly critical society. The very influential Methodist camp meetings of that period are extremely well depicted and the annual tournaments at which the young "knights" from the surrounding towns would vie for honors with horse and lance are as equally well described. The local color in this novel is both abundant and well presented. Although somewhat melodramatic, *One Thing is Certain* is a well written novel which deserves a high place in the literature of the Shore.

In *Mareea-Maria* Mrs. Underwood again capitalizes on the puritanical intolerance of the small town people by having a migrant canning house worker, who is both Italian and Catholic, marry an upstanding young eligible of the town who is a Methodist. The "stir" that is aroused by such an "unholy union" is so great that its repercussions are heard up until the end of the last chapter. Mrs. Underwood's development of Maria, the canning house worker, is especially well done and it is easily possible to visualize the stresses and strains of her inner desires. As in *One Thing is Certain*, the atmosphere of the small town with its smelly canning house and its "proper" citizenry is very well portrayed.

Two of Mrs. Underwood's more recent novels which only slightly touch the Shore scene are: *The Beautiful Woman* (1940) and *Jenny Devlin* (1943). As their titles indicate and as is typical with Mrs. Underwood, the leading characters in both of these books are young women. The former deals with a family conflict involving two sisters—one sincere, honest and sacrificing; the other avaricious, thoughtless and beautiful. Again, personality conflict is the dominating feature of the story. In *Jenny Devlin*, the heroine is a young girl who finds herself a stranger in a small Maryland town with the responsibility of her family on her shoulders. By sheer determination Jenny is able to hold the family together until her father, who has been wounded in the second World War joins them. In both of these novels, the fact that most of the action takes place on the Eastern Shore is relatively unimportant to the plot—the locale could as easily be any small town in Maryland. The titles of some of Mrs. Underwood's other novels are: *Love at Large* (1916), *The Golden Block*, *The See-Saw*, *Confetti*, *Tigers is Only Cats*, *Adventure with Women*, *Painted Meadows*, *Curtain Going Up*, and *Michael's Girl*.

In her short stories, Mrs. Underwood follows in general the same themes that she does in her novels. However, since there is less room for character development, the stories do not exhibit their author's most precious talent as well as the novels. Personality conflicts and the romantic pursuit of spiritual happiness are the dominant themes of her stories. In "Star Rising," which was published in the *Saturday Evening Post* in 1933, there is a mother-daughter conflict which is happily resolved at the end. In "Mr. Parron Beats the Rap," published in the same magazine in 1945, romance is the dominant theme and a love triangle composed of two sophisticated young New York bachelors and a Hungarian refugee provide the conflict. Mrs. Underwood has written several short stories which are laid on the Shore but which do not portray the color of the Shore as well as do her novels. In 1948 she collected some of these stories and published them in a volume entitled *The Sound of Petticoats and Other Stories of the Eastern Shore*.

In contrast to Mrs. Underwood's professional and mature style of writing, there appeared in 1924 a book in which the literary style is appallingly poor.

However, *The Gentleman from Maryland* by Raymond Pue Day, who wrote as D. Shields, is worthy of some note as a local color story about Snow Hill. Ostensibly a satire on John Walter Smith, the Snow Hill man who became governor of Maryland and later a United States Senator, this novel contains a considerable amount of sermonizing about prohibition, religion, and politics. However, through its pages it is possible to perceive some conception of the social and political structure of the town. The fact that all of the Episcopalians and Presbyterians were Democrats and that all of the Methodists and Baptists were Republicans may have had some basis in fact thirty or more years ago. While extremely arbitrary in its assertions, this unique piece of writing does present some interesting sidelights on Eastern Shore life.

A very brief but interesting background account of Ocean City in 1909 is to be found in John Dos Passos' *The 42nd Parallel* (1930), which was united with his 1919 and *The Big Money* in 1938 to form the well known trilogy *U.S.A.* As one of the naturalistic portrayers of a corrupt and exploited America, Dos Passos does not paint a glowing picture of our presently thriving seashore resort. All of its bad features, including the erstwhile mosquitoes and the cold northeasters after Labor Day, are depicted in these few pages. However, he does present us with the only pen picture of the older and smaller Ocean City with its Ocean House, its undependable electric supply and its big ideas for the future.

The first mystery story to appear in realistic fiction is Theodore W. Currier's *The Mystery of Rockdale—A Tale of the Eastern Shore, Maryland* (1930). An awkwardly written story of a murder and jewel theft in the small town of Rockdale, it is, contrary to its subtitle, hardly a tale of the Eastern Shore. However, since it was written by a man who had been the principal of the high school at Perryville and since it is possible to assume that its scene is Perryville, it can be said to be related, although somewhat indirectly, to this area.

Aside from the very brief naturalistic treatment of Ocean City by Dos Passos in 1930, the first effect of the new literary trends which characterized the early American fiction of this century was not felt in this area until 1933. For in that year the Easton-St. Michael's area provided the scene for a "hard boiled" novel entitled *White Piracy* by James Warner Bellah. A resident of Wilmington and a writer of some talent, Mr. Bellah has, in the cryptic, uncouth style of Hemingway, depicted the reckless and shallow lives of an ill-sorted family in their "road-house" like country estate in Talbot County. With overtones of F. Scott Fitzgerald's *Great Gatsby*, Bellah has, in *White Piracy*, presented the Shore with its only fictional picture of the "Jazz Age." Later, in 1940, Bellah again treated the Shore scene in his *The Bones of Napoleon*, a sensational mystery story. Laid, in part, in the conventional haunted house on the waterfront, the only recognizable "tie" with the Shore seems to be the "double stairway" in the small town hotel nearby. Perhaps Bellah had the Washington Hotel in Princess Anne with its unique old two-way staircase in mind when he conceived the "Bones."

The romantic aspects of the Shore's rivers and tidewater areas provide the theme for two light novels that appeared in the thirties. In his *Bugles Going By* (1933), Joseph McCord tells of a waterfront home in which two rather eccentric brothers and their attractive niece raise valuable racing horses. The niece provides the love interest and a local reporter and an adventurous playboy complete the triangle for the plot's conflict. Aside from the fact that the home is located on a river in the northern part of the Shore and to some extent waterfront life is portrayed, this novel has little to contribute to the Shore's literary picture.

Much better at depicting local color is James Gifford's *Eastern Shore* (1935), a romantic story with Oxford and vicinity as its scene. Although the story is, like McCord's, a rather ineffectively contrived one about an Oxford girl and her mysterious suitor, the atmosphere of the locale is fairly well portrayed. The old families, the oystermen, the small waterfront town with its old "professor" and kindly doctor are all depicted in this novel. Gifford, who writes under the name Warren Howard, has written other light fiction about the Shore. Some of his titles are: *The Littlest House* (1936), *The Bridge* (1940), *Third Haven* (1941), and *The Boat* (1941).

Another book which is of value as a descriptive piece is John Gill's *In His Own Country*, which also appeared in 1935. By no means a professional writer, Mr. Gill, who has resided in Oxford for the past few years, has told an interesting story of several rather esoteric people who are seeking solitude in the waterfront area of Talbot County. Although the structure of the plot is rather poorly handled, the book does effectively portray some of the attractive features of solitary life in the tidewater section. By having two sophisticated young men desert Paris to live in the backwoods of Talbot County, Mr. Gill has given the Shore a certain "magnetic" charm that, evidently, many of its natives have failed to see.

The first "naturalistic" novel to have the Eastern Shore as its scene also appeared in 1935. In his *Joshua Todd*, Fulton Oursler has used Chestertown (or some other Shore town of similar characteristics) as the locale for a fictional treatment that is definitely in the tradition of the early American Naturalists, Theodore Dreiser and Sherwood Anderson. Like Dreiser's *Sister Carrie*, *Joshua Todd* is the story of an ill-fated person who manages to rise much higher than his greatest expectations but who is not always a moral person in high places. And like the naturalists in general, Mr. Oursler has left nothing out of his story to make it as realistic, and incidentally, as ugly and sordid, as possible. Joshua seems to be a victim of his passions from the time he becomes editor of the weekly paper until he marries for the second time at the end of the novel. During Joshua's growth in the story, it is possible to get an excellent picture of the ugly and sordid side of the muddy little town with its good-natured alcoholic doctor and its unpleasant atmosphere.

Two years later, in 1937, another realistic look at the "uglier" side of Shore life appeared in Waters Edward Turpin's novel *These Low Grounds*. Not a naturalistic work, this novel very realistically traces the history of a Negro family from immediately after the Civil War up until 1931. Although some of the action takes place in Baltimore, Oxford and Salisbury provide the locale for most of the story. Autobiographical in its latter part, this extremely well written book presents a vivid picture of the struggles of the Negro on the Shore to improve his position in society. In its pages it is possible to see Negro life in the smelly oyster houses and in the Negro section at Oxford, in the high school at Salisbury, and in Morgan State College in Baltimore. A description of the brutality of the lynching of a Negro in Salisbury in 1931 provides a somewhat ironical climax for the story. Episodic in its method of narration and epical in its effects, this novel deserves a high place in Shore literature as both an excellent portrayal of Negro life on the Shore and as the work of a native son. Mr. Turpin, who has in recent years become a college professor, has written one other novel entitled *O Canaan*.

The Eastern Shore again became the scene for a mystery story in 1937 in the popular *Ill Met by Moonlight* by Mrs. Zenith Brown who writes as Leslie

Ford. Laying her story in "April Harbor" (a residence colony not unlike the area around Oxford in the summer), Mrs. Brown effectively tells of a murder and its subsequent solution. Aside from the fact that the "Harbor" overlooks the Chesapeake and that a few Shore localities are occasionally named, the story has little to attach it to this area.

In the same light romantic vein as Gifford's *Eastern Shore* and McCord's *Bugles Going By* is Eleanor Elliott Carroll's *Chariot of the Sun* (1938). With Kent Island as its locale, it is the story of the conflict that arises between a local girl and her somewhat disillusioned and spineless fiance from "across the bay." Although it does not dwell extensively with the scenery of the island, it does provide some insight into the lives of the "station wagon" set of that section.

Worthy of mention is *The Resurrection of R. K. 7 Ranch* (1943) by Lee Rademaker, a physician and surgeon of Salisbury. In this novel, Dr. Rademaker tells the story of a veteran of the first World War who, on returning to his ranch home in the midwest, finds his father murdered and the ranch in the hands of a band of rustlers. After surmounting almost overwhelming obstacles the son avenges his father's death and regains control of the ranch. Although not an outstanding work, this novel does show that along with some talent at writing, the author must have both a personal interest in and an acquaintance with the subject about which he was writing.

A brief but realistic look at a family living on the Shore in 1839 is afforded by John Shelby's *Elegant Journey* (1944). Too brief a treatment to be included in the historical fiction category, this novel is the story of a family that, tiring of the slave controversy on the Shore, sell their slaves and move to the West. Although only the first three chapters deal with their stay in this area, local names of people and places are utilized to somewhat effectively show some of the color of the period.

In 1945 there appeared *Animal Fair* by Evelyn West, a poorly constructed story of a girl who spends her high school days in a town on the Shore. As the novel is entirely centered around the exposure of the character of its somewhat confused heroine, the Shore scene is touched on but lightly. Another book that is but vaguely attached to this area is Hilda Lawrence's *The Pavilion* (1948). An Inner Sanctum Mystery, this novel is presumably laid on the Shore; however there are few instances of evidence to prove this presumption.

One of the few humorous books to be written on the Shore scene is Mannix Walker's *The Lonely Carrot* (1947). By transplanting a fairly large urban family in straitened circumstances into an old mansion somewhere near the Chesapeake Bay, Mr. Walker has attempted to produce humor by relating its somewhat absurd experiences in attempting to make a living with it. Along with raising carrots in a somewhat erudite fashion, the family takes in an odd assortment of boarders from the urban centers across the bay and to the north. Although it is possible that there are such families doing such things on the Shore, this book has little to recommend it as either a producer of humor or as a literary work.

An unpleasant naturalistic novel dealing in part with the Shore scene is *Castle in the Sand* (1947) by Richard Krebs (Jan Valtin) who is presently a resident of Betterton. In this novel, Krebs, who is well known for his *Out of the Night* (1941), has presented the experiences of a prisoner of the Nazis in Germany who, with the girl who later becomes his wife, escapes his native country to seek his salvation in this one. The latter third of the narrative has a farm overlooking the Chesapeake Bay as its locale. Here the couple is seen struggling to build a

home with the husband resorting to the unpleasant job of cleaning out wells to make a living. Although wanting in both good taste and literary quality, this novel does rather effectively portray the Shore as a fruitful land of opportunity offering independence and security to those who will but work for it.

5. NON-FICTIONAL PROSE

By far the most various of the several divisions of Shore literature is the one concerned with non-fictional prose. For in this department we find at least six different kinds of writing which have some bearing on the Shore scene. Of these six, the two which have proved to be the most productive are those which concern descriptions of the charm of the area and church history and biography. The other kinds of writing include: early journals, political writing, biography and autobiography, local history, and miscellaneous articles and books of note.

Although of only passing interest the journals of three men who were associated with this area in the seventeenth century should be mentioned. Captain John Smith, the founder of the Jamestown Colony in Virginia, was the first to write about the Shore. In his *Generall Historie of Virginia, New England and the Summer Isles* (1624) and in his other writings, we find brief references to his impression of the bayside area as he sailed up the Chesapeake in 1608. The development of Bohemia Manor in Cecil County in 1659 is the subject of a journal by the merchant and adventurer, Augustine Herrman. In the journal of George Fox, the great Quaker leader, we find references to his visits in Talbot County and northward in 1672.

A more important journal of a somewhat later vintage is that of the first Methodist bishop in this country, Francis Asbury. In this work, which was published in 1821, Asbury tells of his several visits to the Shore around the turn of the nineteenth century. Although primarily interested in the building up of congregations, Asbury does include some general information about the conditions existing at the time. And since he covered practically the entire Shore in his travels, this journal is perhaps one of the best pen pictures of the area at that time available.

The greatest political writer to come from the Shore was John Dickinson (1732-1808), the "penman of the Revolution." Dickinson, a native of Talbot County, spent the better part of his youth with his family in Delaware. After receiving a legal education in London, he returned to this country to practice law in Philadelphia. Keenly interested in politics and in the relationship of this country to its then mother, England, he published in 1767 a series of twelve letters which collectively bore the title: *Letters from a Farmer in Pennsylvania to the Inhabitants of the British Colonies*. These letters with their sober reasoning tone, written at a time when the feelings of the colonists toward England were anything but cool, were of a great influence in the Colonies. Denouncing acts of violence as contrary to the spirit of true liberty, they contrasted very markedly with the writings of another man of the period, Thomas Paine. As Paine screamed for violence, Dickinson tried to prove by logic that England's treatment of the colonies was, in itself, contrary to the British constitution and, as Paine called for the greatest effort against England, Dickinson pleaded for an enduring patience on the part of the colonists. With their personal prosaic style, these letters provide the foundation on which Dickinson's literary reputation rests. With the exception of one poem, which is discussed in the section on poetry, he wrote nothing

else of consequence. However, as a political writer of the Revolution he is ranked with both Benjamin Franklin and his temperamental opposite, Thomas Paine.

Another political writer of Shore vintage was Frederick Douglass (1817-1895), the great Negro abolitionist. Douglass, who was born a slave in Talbot County and escaped as a youth, wrote *My Bondage and My Freedom—Narrative of My Experience in Slavery* which was published by the Anti-Slavery Office in 1845. Written at a time when there were few educated slaves, this book was of some importance to the anti-slavery movement. In 1892 Douglass wrote an autobiography entitled the *Life and Times of Frederick Douglass* in which he retells his early life and goes on from 1845. In both of these books, he paints an ugly picture of the living conditions and treatment of the slaves in Talbot County. Although admittedly permeated with political purpose and self vindication, these two works give us some idea of the not so romantic side of plantation life on the Shore in the early nineteenth century.

The first work to appear in the department of church history and biography is a book which, incidentally, contains elements of both. Adam Wallace's *The Parson of the Islands* (1861) is, in the main, a biography of the legendary Joshua Thomas, the Methodist preacher of Deals and Tangier Island who served as the chaplain to the British forces while they were encamped on Tangier in the War of 1812. As it contains the Prettyman papers which are supposed to have been dictated by Thomas himself, it is, in part, autobiographical. It is of historical value in that it contains a considerable amount of information about the activities of the Methodist Church, with its camp meetings and revivals, in the islands of the lower Chesapeake from 1805 to 1853. Another work to appear in the nineteenth century is Samuel Alexander Harrison's *Wenlock Christian and the Early Friends in Talbot County* (1878), a brief history of the Quaker movement on the Shore.

An important contribution to the early history of the Presbyterian denomination on the peninsula is *The Days of Makemie* (1885) by the Reverend Dr. Littleton Purnell Bowen. In this highly documented work, Dr. Bowen (1833-1933), a native of near Berlin and nationally known Presbyterian historian and author, has traced the activities of the denomination on the Shore from 1680 to 1708. During this period, Francis Makemie, the church's vigorous young missionary from Scotland and Ireland, was called by the Shore people to help build up congregations here. After his arrival, Makemie founded seven churches which are active today in Wicomico, Somerset, and Worcester counties and in Accomack County, Virginia. Dr. Bowen, who served as pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Berlin for many years, has also written some poetry which is discussed in that section.

A comprehensive picture of Methodism on the Shore is found in the Reverend Robert W. Todd's *Methodism of the Peninsula* (1886). In an interesting and entertaining fashion, Reverend Mr. Todd tells of the growth and flowering of Methodism in this area and in Delaware from 1784 to up until the 1860s. In addition to many brief sketches of the notable figures of the denomination, there are humorous "homespun" verses about the presiding elders and those "ever important" quarterly conferences. Historically sound and yet colorful and enjoyable, this book is one of the finest contributions to church life on the Shore. At the time he wrote this work, Reverend Mr. Todd was the pastor of the Methodist Church at Snow Hill.

There are three rather brief histories of individual churches that are worthy of note. The first of these is Harry Pringle Ford's very short work, the *History of the Manokin Presbyterian Church* (1910). Another is De Courcy W. Thom's *Old Wye Church of Old Wye Parish, Maryland* which appeared in 1930. This

should be of especial interest and value now since the recent restoration of this historic old church. A church with a rather odd name is the subject of Percy G. Skirven's *I.U.—A Historic Shrine in Old Kent* which was written in 1931.

A more recent history of the Presbyterian denomination in Berlin and eastern Worcester County is Reverend I. Marshall Page's *Old Buckingham by the Sea* (1936). Reverend Mr. Page, who was for several years pastor of Buckingham Church in Berlin, has traced the history of that church and of the denomination in that area from the days of its origin when Francis Makemie was doing his work up until 1936. Although not particularly a scholarly work, this book is of value as a picture of the denomination's activities in that part of Worcester County. In 1938 Reverend Page wrote a biography of Makemie entitled *The Life Story of Reverend Francis Makemie*. More comprehensive than Dr. Bowen's *Days of Makemie*, this book covers the entire life of its subject from his boyhood in Ireland until his death on the Eastern Shore. A fairly well written work, this book is of value to the history of Presbyterianism in general.

Another contribution to this department is the Reverend Sidney B. Bradley's *The Life of Bishop Richard Whatcoat* (1936). A native of Mardela and, for the last several years, pastor of various Methodist churches on the Shore, Reverend Mr. Bradley has written the life of a man who was an important figure in early Methodism in this area. Like Francis Makemie in the Presbyterian Church, Bishop Whatcoat did much for the growth of his denomination on the peninsula. On several occasions he served as the host of the first Methodist Bishop in this country, Francis Asbury, when he made his visits.

The field of biography has not been a flourishing one. Aside from the church biographies and the one autobiography of Frederick Douglass already mentioned, there are but six works which are to be found in this field. The first of these to appear is the brief *Memoir of Lieutenant Colonel Tench Tilghman* (1876) by his descendant Oswald Tilghman. A native of Talbot County, Colonel Tilghman was aide de camp to General George Washington in the Revolutionary War and served with him through all of the major campaigns. George L. P. Radcliffe's *Governor Thomas H. Hicks of Maryland and the Civil War* (1902) is a scholarly work on the life of the native of Dorchester County who was the governor of Maryland during the crucial Civil War period. Also a native of Dorchester County is former United States Senator Radcliffe, one of the state's outstanding historians.

The story of another Shoreman who won fame in the Revolutionary War is *Lambert Wickes—Sea Raider and Diplomat* (1932) by William Bell Clark. A native of Kent County, Wickes was a naval hero and captain of the famous *Reprisal* when this nation was struggling for its freedom from England. A scholarly pen picture of one of the Shore's early figures is Earl L. W. Heck's *Augustine Herrman* (1941). Herrman, whose journal has already been mentioned, was the enterprising Lord of Bohemia Manor in Cecil County. A native of Bohemia and a prosperous merchant of the early seventeenth century in this country, Herrman settled down and spent the last years of his life at his manor house. The life of the Eastern Shore Negress who served as the conductor of the "underground railroad," which "carried" slaves to freedom in the north, is the subject of Earl Conrad's *Harriet Tubman* (1943). One of conductress Tubman's journeys is very ably described in Anne Parrish's *A Clouded Star* (1948), which is discussed in the section on historical fiction.

Of interest to Salisburians and Wicomico countians is *Elizabeth W. Wood-*

cock of Chatillon—A Story of a Good Life (1947) by Amos W. W. Woodcock. Writing affectionately of his sister, General Woodcock, one of the Shore's most distinguished sons, has told the life story of one of Salisbury's outstanding educators. Dedicating her life to her career, Miss Woodcock unselfishly devoted all of her efforts to the betterment of elementary education in her native town. Along with the biography, there are several items of local historical interest in this work.

The discussion of the relatively large number of works that are dedicated to describing the charms of the Shore necessarily requires some sort of a breakdown as to the type of charms being described. In spite of the fact that there is some overlapping of information from one group into another, it is possible to divide this department into four different sections. The first and largest is composed of works describing the general Shore scene—its people, its customs, its flavor, the lay of its land, etc.; the second, its legends and recollective stories, which are based on fancy as well as fact; the third, descriptions of its great body of water, the Chesapeake Bay; and the fourth, its old houses and old families.

The first work on the Shore scene to appear was an article in the May, 1879, issue of *Harper's New Monthly Magazine* entitled "A Peninsular Canaan" by Howard Pyle. Charmingly written, the Maryland section of this article deals with the oyster industry at Crisfield, strawberry production at Westover, and the fishing industry at Northeast. It is not, however, a commercial article. The activities are described from a cultural point of view, not a statistical economic one. Along with their description we get a brief but interesting picture of what life was like in these places in the seventies.

In the early twenties two books dealing with the Shore scene as a whole made their appearance. The first of these and the more comprehensive of the two is Edward Noble Vallandigham's *Delaware and the Eastern Shore* (1922). Profusely illustrated and entertainingly written, this book contains a wealth of information about the entire peninsula. Along with a general history of the area there are chapters dedicated to such topics as: communications, Chesapeake voyages (as of 1922 and before), racial elements, sports, historic homes, early churches, county towns, islands of the bay, occupations, and humors of the law and politics. Perhaps better known is *The Chesapeake Bay Country* (1923) edited by Swepson Earle, which in its entirety covers all of the areas "washed" by the great bay. The four chapters on the Shore cover such topics as: histories of the counties, the area's part in the Revolutionary War, old homes and churches, and outstanding citizens of the past. Less of a social picture than Vallandigham's book, this work concentrates more on the glories of the past as is seen in the old homes and the charm of the present as seen in the tidewater areas. This book is also well illustrated with photographs. Up until his death several years ago, Mr. Earle was a resident of the Shore and one of its more active historians.

Very similar to Pyle's "Peninsular Canaan" are the descriptive essays to be found in Dr. Robert Wilson's *Half Forgotten By-Ways of the Old South* (1928). Originally published in *Lippincott's Magazine* in 1876 and '77, these five articles deal with the Shore scene of about that time. The rector of the Episcopal Church in Easton at the time he was writing, Dr. Wilson covers such topics as: a description of the peninsula from a bay steamer, the productive industries of the bay and of the Shore, and a description of the islands in the upper part of the bay. Like the essays of Pyle, these articles picture the Shore as an outsider looking in would see it.

Structurally like Earle's *Chesapeake Bay Country* is Paul Wilstach's *Tide-*

water Maryland (1931) which as its title indicates, deals with the parts of Maryland that are affected by the running of the tide. Both historical and descriptive, this book contains three chapters on the Shore in which such topics as the following are discussed: histories of towns, outstanding people, churches, social groups including the Labadists and the Acadians, old houses, and the origin of place names. Although it contains a few factual inaccuracies, this work is of great value not only as a history and description of the Shore but as a book which effectively points out the similarities of this area to the rest of tidewater Maryland.

Worthy of mention in this category is the Works Projects Administration's writers' project entitled *Maryland: A Guide to the Old Line State* (1940). Although this is perhaps not literature in its stricter sense, it seems unfair to discuss books that describe the Shore without at least referring to it. An extremely thorough work, this book contains a wealth of accurate information about this area. Ostensibly a tour book, it goes much further to present a comprehensive picture of commercial and cultural life in the Maryland part of the peninsula.

The last two works to appear on the general Shore scene are the product of one man, Hulbert Footner. Up until his death a few years ago, Mr. Footner, a native of Canada, spent many years in Baltimore and in southern Maryland writing on various topics. In his *Maryland Main and the Eastern Shore* (1942), he has dedicated a chapter to each of the nine counties. As his publisher, D. Appleton-Century Company, suggests, the title of this book should be "Footner Looks at Maryland," for in these chapters you see the counties as a charmed spectator, who has plenty of time, would see them. Writing in a familiar personal style, Mr. Footner takes into account the charms of the past as well as those of the present in presenting his observations. Although there are some inaccuracies, which are inevitable in this sort of work, this book presents an extremely entertaining and enlightening picture of the present day scene.

In his *Rivers of the Eastern Shore* (1944), Mr. Footner traces out the history and geography of the seventeen rivers on the bayside of the Shore. In doing this, he presents what is, to a great extent, the early history of the entire area. Along with a considerable amount of description and scenery, he relates much of the folklore and legendry of the early period. Charmingly written and, in the main, historically accurate, this book has proven to be one of the most popular written about the Shore. One of the "Rivers of America" series, it has outsold every other title in that rather popular collection.

The first of the group of recollective stories and legendry to appear was Prentiss Ingraham's⁴ *Land of Legendary Lore* (1898). A not too well written hodgepodge of local history, customs, and legendry, this book deals primarily with Easton and Talbot County. Its "legendry" consists of two tales about weird happenings in the area. Perhaps the most interesting thing in it is the author's vociferous denunciation of George Alfred Townsend for writing his *Entailed Hat*, which, according to Ingraham exposes only the "evil" side of Shore life. Would that Ingraham had spent his time as well as did Townsend!

A far greater contribution is Edmund K. Goldsborough's *Ole Mars and Ole Miss* (1900), a series of recollective stories about plantation life on the Shore before the Civil War. Written in a style very much like that of Joel Chandler Harris in his "Uncle Remus" tales, these stories,⁵ with their "darkie" dialect and homely characterization give us some insight into how life might have been at that time.

In his *Tales of Old Maryland* (1907), John H. K. Shannahan, Jr., gives us

a "legendary look" at some of the interesting characters and places of the peninsula. Two of his characters are Frederick Douglass and the notorious Patty Cannon and some of the places he mentions are: Wye House, Oxford, and the Old Quaker meeting house in Talbot County. Another book by the same man is worthy of note. That is his *Steamboatin' Days* (1930), a history of all the old steamers that used to ply between the tidewater towns of the Shore and Baltimore. In this work, Shannahan has captured something worthwhile for posterity to remember. The steamboat era is all but forgotten and this volume seems to be the only monument of its importance to the people of the Shore in the nineteenth century that yet remains.

A personal recollective work about the natural beauties of Talbot County is Joseph B. and Mary W. Seth's *Recollections of a Long Life on the Eastern Shore* (n.d.). A native of Talbot, born around 1857, Mr. Seth affectionately recalls the happy days of his youth. Although there is little in the work to identify it with any particular place, it does contain an attractive picture of home life in the country on the Shore.

Certainly the most important contribution to the legendary charm of the Shore is *The Eastern Shore of Maryland in Song and Story* (1938) edited by Walter C. Thurston. The product of many contributors from all over the area, this interesting work contains a wealth of information about the side-lights of Shore life. Intermingled with a great number of verses are as many brief prose sketches of such things as: Patty Cannon, Amelia Welby (poetess of St. Michaels), All Hallows Episcopal Church in Snow Hill, and The Old Friends Meeting House in Easton. Although sketchily written and possibly not, in all respects, historically accurate, this book is by far the most comprehensive work of its kind to appear. The "unofficial" poet laureate of Salisbury and perhaps of the entire Shore, Mr. Thurston's work is discussed more thoroughly in the section on poetry.

The two books which deal almost exclusively with the Chesapeake Bay and its environs are devoted to similar phases of the same topic thirty-five years apart. Actually they are cruise books and are dedicated to informing the reader what he would find and what he could expect from cruising in the bay. In their *Cruises Mainly in the Chesapeake* (1909), Robert and George Barrie, Jr., very graphically tell of their experiences with sailing yachts in the bay. Professional sailors in their own right, these two brothers present an extremely interesting picture of the bay area immediately after the turn of the century. In *Chesapeake Cruise* (1944) edited by Norman Alan Hill, we obtain a somewhat similar picture of the same area thirty-five years later. Only in this book, motor and not sail is the method of power. The contrast in the two pictures is striking—in one we are worried with the direction of the wind and the ability to get supplies; in the other, finding the many yacht clubs and keeping up with all of the water sports and regattas seems to be our primary interest. Rich in bay lore and in the yachting traditions, these two books occupy a unique place in the Shore's literature.

Old homes and old families of the Shore are the subject of Swepson Earle and Percy Skirven's *Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore* (1916) and Katherine Scarborough's *Homes of the Cavaliers* (1930). By far the more detailed of the two, the former work includes photographs, descriptions, and histories of many of the older homes in this area. In addition to this there are descriptions and pictures of several of the famous old structures on the Shore. Miss Scarborough deals with the homes of the more famous Shoremen and dedicates a

considerable amount of space to describing a few of the more important spots.

Of passing interest are the local histories. Six of the nine Shore counties have some form of written history; the fates of the other three have not yet been reduced to writing. The works that have been written to date are: for Cecil, *The History of Cecil County, Maryland* (1881) by George Johnston; for Kent, *History of Kent County, Maryland* (1916) by Fred Usilton, *The Government of Kent County* (1931) by W. R. Howell, and *Old Kent—The Eastern Shore of Maryland* (1876) by George A. Hanson; for Talbot, *History of Talbot County, Maryland 1661-1861* (1915) by Oswald Tilghman; for Caroline, *History of Caroline County, Maryland* (1920) sponsored by the schools of the county; for Dorchester, *Revised History of Dorchester County* (1925) by Elias Jones; and for Somerset, *Old Somerset on the Eastern Shore of Maryland* (1935) by Clayton Torrence. The more important town histories are: *The History of Pocomoke City* (1883) by James Murray; *The History of the Re-incarnation of Easton, Maryland* (1926) by Martin M. Higgins, and *Historic Salisbury, Maryland* (1932) by Charles J. Truitt. Mr. Truitt's work, a popular and well written one, also contains some information about the history of Wicomico County.

A realistic picture of farm life on the Shore is presented in two books by Evelyn Harris. The first of these, *The Farmer and His Wife* (1924), deals with the struggles of a farm couple near Betterton in Kent County. The second and the more popular of the two, *The Barter Lady—A Woman Farmer Sees it Through* (1934), is a running log of the experiences of a widow with children operating a farm in Kent County during the Depression of the early thirties. Although not particularly good from a literary standpoint, these books do show, in a very realistic fashion, the results of the national economy on the life of the truck farmers of this section.

Two books by Ida M. H. Starr, who up until her death several years ago lived at Hope House in Talbot County, are worthy of note. An extremely cultured and sophisticated person, Mrs. Starr wrote of her artistic experiences in her books. In *Beyond the Sunset* (1921), she presents a personal criticism of poetry with a special emphasis on the works of John Keats, Leigh Hunt, and Dante Gabriel Rossetti. In her *The Amazing Finale* (1927), she relates the experiences of her aesthetic sense during her attempts at painting and drawing. An active worker for better living conditions in Talbot County, Mrs. Starr did much writing for this cause in the local newspapers. On one occasion, when she was pleading for better roads, she referred to her home county as the "Ethiopia of America."

An interesting and enlightening work by Dr. Alfred Pearce Dennis, a native of the Shore, is *Gods and Little Fishes* (1924). In this, Dr. Dennis, who traveled extensively throughout this country and Europe, relates his experiences with Calvin Coolidge, Woodrow Wilson and other important figures of the time. Written in the form of a "memoir," this book affords an intimate look into the lives of the outstanding national leaders of the 1917-1923 period. Of historical importance is Raphael Semmes' *Captains and Mariners of Early Maryland* (1937). A scholarly work, this book deals with the nautical aspects of the settlement of the Shore in the seventeenth century.

6. POETRY

Poetry has never been a flourishing phase of the literature of the Shore. With a few outstanding exceptions, practically all of it has appeared since the

turn of the century. Unfortunately, much of that which has appeared leaves much to be desired as far as literary quality is concerned. During the past decade, however, there has been some quickening of activity in this field and it is hoped that as the picturesqueness and charm of the Shore become better known, there will, accordingly, be further impetus to activity in this form of literary expression.

The first appearance of poetry on the Shore scene dates back to the early part of the eighteenth century. Published in London in 1708, Ebenezer Cooke's *The Sot-Weed Factor or, A Voyage to Maryland* presents a brief and not too flattering look at life in this area at that time. An adventurous merchant with some wit and poetic talent, Cooke came to Maryland with the intention of going into the mercantile business. According to one authority,⁶ he spent a brief period at Cooke's Point on the Choptank River and was appointed Poet Laureate of the province by Charles, the fifth Lord Baltimore and fourth Lord Proprietary of the Province of Maryland. For this seemingly slight reason, he has been called "America's Only Poet Laureate." His "Sot-Weed Factor," a satirical narrative poem in couplets, deals with his unpleasant experiences in this area. In a very entertaining fashion, he tells of the unsympathetic courts, the despicable inns, and the hungry mosquitoes that he found during his rather unsuccessful venture on the Shore.

Interestingly enough, the first poem to be written by a native of the Shore was one that achieved some reputation as a patriotic song in the colonies. Appearing in 1768, when patriotism was just beginning to be felt by the colonists, John Dickinson's "A Song for American Freedom" became popular practically overnight. Containing the familiar phrase "By uniting We stand, by dividing We fall," it was by far one of the most popular songs of that period. Dickinson's life and more important political writing is discussed in the section of this chapter devoted to non-fictional prose.

Aside from these rather brief contributions, which are actually more of historical than literary interest, poetry did not appear on the Shore scene until well into the middle of the nineteenth century. In 1845 the first edition of Amelia Ball Coppuck Welby's collected works, *Poems by Amelia*, made its appearance. Running to seventeen editions with the fourteenth edition amounting to 14,000 copies, this collection of Mrs. Welby's poems constitutes the greatest contribution to American poetry to come from a native of the Shore. The daughter of a lighthouse construction mechanic named Coppuck, Mrs. Welby was born in St. Michaels in 1819. Several years later her family moved to Baltimore and in 1834, they settled in Louisville, Kentucky. In Louisville the then Miss Coppuck married George W. Welby in 1838 and continued the writing of poetry which she had begun at an early age. The center of attraction of the then flourishing literary circle of Louisville, Mrs. Welby became the protégé of George D. Prentice, the nationally known editor of the *Louisville Journal*. Although only one volume of her poems was published, she was a frequent contributor to the *Louisville Journal* and other periodicals that were interested in the literary talent of the writers of that section. Unfortunately, her career was but a relatively brief one, being brought to a close by her death in 1852.

A truly talented writer of romantic lyrics, Mrs. Welby was one of the few poetesses of her time to receive the notice of Edgar Allan Poe. In his "American Literati," Poe remarked that "Very few American poets are at all comparable with her in the true poetic qualities." Dealing sentimentally with such

subjects as nature, love, and death, Mrs. Welby's lyrics are comparable in content and style to those of the minor romantic English poet Thomas Moore. Like Moore, and like other poets of the romantic period, she couches the human emotions that she treats in natural settings. Eight lines of her "Twilight at Sea" which illustrate both this and her excellent lyrical facility are:

"The twilight hours like birds flew by
So gently and so free
Ten thousand stars were in the sky,
Ten thousand in the sea.

For every wave with dimple cheek
That leaped upon the air
Had caught a star in its embrace
And held it trembling there."

Mrs. Welby's longest poem, "Pulpit Eloquence," is said to have been written about the Reverend Thomas H. Stockton who preached at St. Michaels when Mrs. Welby was a child. Whether or not this is true is uncertain, but it is certain that the following stanza of this poem exhibits a talent and charm that is worthy of commendation.

"There's a charm in delivery, a magical art,
That thrills, like a kiss, from the lip to the heart;
'Tis the glance—the expression—the well chosen word,
By whose magic the depths of the spirit are stirred,
The smile—the mute gesture—the soul-starting pause,
The eye's sweet expression—that melts while it awes,
The lip's soft persuasion—its musical tone—
O such was the charm of that eloquent one!"

Aside from her "Village in the Moonlight," a recollective poem about St. Michaels, no other of her poems can be attached to the Shore.

Inferior in quality but of importance to this area are the poems of George Alfred Townsend which appeared in the latter part of the nineteenth century. Townsend, whose life and more important historical fiction is discussed in the section of this chapter on historical fiction, versified on a variety of subjects. In his *Poems* (1870), we find such titles as: "The Jew," "To Victor Hugo," "Steerforth," "Joan of Arc," etc. Two of the poems, "Chester River" and "The Circuit Preacher," deal with Shore themes. A better and more comprehensive work on the Shore is his "Land of Pocomoke" which appears in *Maryland in Prose and Poetry* (1909) edited by Noble and Tubbs. In Townsend's *Tales of the Chesapeake* (1880), a book of short stories interspersed with poetry, we find "A Bayside Idyl" (about Cambridge on the Choptank) and "Herrman of Bohemia Manor." A versifier of limited means, Townsend retells old tales and legends in a style that was conventional with the versifiers of his time. Never pretending to be a professional poet, he wrote verses primarily to satisfy a desire. His last collection to appear was *Poems of Men and Events* (1899).

It is interesting to note that as early as 1887, an anthology of the poetry of one county of the Shore had made an appearance. The first and last anthology to deal exclusively with the poetry of any part of the Maryland penin-

sula, George Johnston's *The Poets and Poetry of Cecil County, Maryland* occupies a unique position in the Shore's literary picture. Entirely of local interest, it contains the works of verse writers living in and around Elkton with some of the poems dating as far back as 1868. Some of the writers whose works are included are: Folger McKinsey, David Scott, Emma Alica Browne, John McCooley, and Edwin and William Ewing. In general the poems deal with such subjects as: the death of friends, anniversaries, tributes to nature and "In Memoriams."

Another anthology that should be mentioned is George Perine's *The Poets and Verse Writers of Maryland* (1898). This work contains the works of such Eastern Shore poets as: Zebulon Rudolph (1794-c. 1860) of Cecil County; Henry Vanderford (1811-96) of Caroline County; Rev. William A. White, one time rector of the Episcopal Church in Salisbury; William M. Marine (1843-1904), a native of Sharptown; Amelia Welby; and Folger McKinsey (1866-—), a native of Elkton. A comparatively scholarly work, this book is of especial value to an interpretation of nineteenth century poetry in this area.

A native writer of verses, who remained to teach school in that part of Wicomico County (originally Worcester) where she was born, is Amanda Elizabeth Dennis. Although only an amateur versifier like Townsend, Miss Dennis⁷ does present some of the color and flavor of the section in which she wrote during the latter half of the last century. In her poems we see many of the interesting sidelights of life in that area. Her collection, *Asphodels and Pansies* (1888), includes poems about Salisbury after the fire of 1886, the church meetings of the period, and life in a district school in Nassawango in the winter. Like Mrs. Welby, she writes of sentimental and emotional topics. Although her style is somewhat similar to Mrs. Welby's, her poems are not nearly so intense and effective.

Another versifier who wrote on Shore themes is William Matthew Marine (1843-1905), a native of Sharptown. A resident of Baltimore the greater part of his life, Marine was extremely interested in Maryland's history.⁸ In his only collection of poems, *The Battle of North Point and Other Poems* (1901), we find several recollective verses about his boyhood on the peninsula. The titles of these are "Since Boyhood," "The Merchant of the Village," and "The Saw Mill." Perhaps the best thing that he wrote about the Shore is a poem entitled "A Fair Country." The first stanza of this which is worth quoting is:

"Fair country, through which rivers flow,
In slender forms, like silver threads,
Where, mirrored in their surface glow,
The whitened sail of commerce spreads!"

Certainly the Shore's greatest contribution to Maryland poetry is Folger McKinsey (1866-), a native of Elkton. The author and editor of the "Good Morning" column, which ran from 1906 until within a few years ago in the *Baltimore Sun*, McKinsey, as the "Benztown Bard," is the uncrowned Poet Laureate of Maryland. Now a resident of Severna Park in Anne Arundel County, McKinsey began his career as a newspaperman in Elkton and was at one time editor of the *Cecil Whig*. The first collection of his poems, *A Rose of the Old Regime* (1907) contains: "The Men of Old Kent," "Chester River," and "Chesapeake City." The best of these is the first, which tells of the old hunting days in Kent County. In his *Songs of the Daily Life* (1911), we

find two poems, "Kent Island" and the "Oyster Wharves at Crisfield," which deal with the Shore. Since the publication of this last volume, McKinsey has written a great number of verses about the peninsula in his "Good Morning" column. Not an accomplished poet in the literary sense, McKinsey's style is comparable to that of Edgar Guest. It is simple and unpretentious with little to recommend it as truly inspired poetry. However, McKinsey's contribution to the portrayal of the charm of the Shore is nonetheless a great one. Over a comparatively long period of time he has been pointing out the seemingly unimportant little aspects of life in Maryland which mean so much in their entirety. Truly he has sung "Maryland's song" as has no other man.

Worthy of mention is the only anthology of Maryland prose and poetry to appear in the twentieth century. Not a scholarly work, *Maryland in Prose and Poetry* (1909) edited by E. M. Noble and E. T. Tubbs, contains some of the more important poems about life on the Shore. Compiled with the primary intention of stimulating an interest in Maryland Day, it deals with patriotic and historical topics and themes.

Life in Worcester County in the last century is one of the major themes of *Makemieland Memorials* (1910) by the Rev. Dr. Littleton Purnell Bowen. Primarily a religious historian, Dr. Bowen's life and work is discussed in the section of this chapter on non-fictional prose. The better part of *Makemieland Memorials* is dedicated to his amateur versifying about his life in Worcester County and about the Presbyterian pioneer Francis Makemie. Capitalizing on local Indian names, dialect and humor, Dr. Bowen has written some of the most entertaining verses about this area. In his "Maryland Aviator," he amusingly tells of the ever-present turkey buzzard. In imitation of the great epic poetry, he sings of the Musk Rat in his "Maryland Venison." Other topics he includes are: ferneries and wildlife, hickory nutting, and the sad condition of what was once called "Lover's Lane" outside of Pocomoke. Like McKinsey, Dr. Bowen has made a definite contribution to a better understanding of life in his native area.

Worthy of note are the poems of Mrs. E. Archer-Burton, who was a long-time resident of Salisbury. In her *Silver Wings and Other Gems of Thought and Verse* (1920), Mrs. Archer-Burton has expressed many of her personal ideas and emotions in a very lyrical way. Although none of her verses deal with the Shore theme, they do exhibit some semblance of talent in their creator.

Another work of some talent is *Ebb Tide* (1925) by Jackson Vanderbogat (John McAlpin), a native and resident of the Shore near Salisbury. With of mature appreciation for the early English romantic poets, Mr. Vanderbogat has presented several poems modeled in both style and theme on the work of Samuel Taylor Coleridge and William Wordsworth. Using the somewhat difficult sonnet structure, he has effectively imitated both Wordsworth and Shakespeare. Like Mrs. Archer-Burton, he has expressed his ideas and emotions and has not concerned himself with local themes.

As Folger McKinsey has sung Maryland's song, so has Walter C. Thurston sung that of Salisbury and the Eastern Shore of Maryland. A sort of professional verse writer, Mr. Thurston resided in Salisbury for thirty years, until his death in 1944. His first venture in Shore literary endeavor, which was not particularly successful from an economic standpoint, was a periodical entitled *Little Journeys Throughout the Eastern Shore of Delaware, Maryland and Virginia*, which was published monthly in the years 1926 to 1929. In this work, as in his later endeavors, he attempted to gather all of the legends and charm-

ing aspects of Shore life in both prose and verse. Although his primary job was editing this periodical, he did much of the verse writing himself. Probably the most popular of Mr. Thurston's publications is his *The Eastern Shore of Maryland in Song and Story* (1938), which has been mentioned in the section on non-fictional prose. In this work we find verses both by Mr. Thurston and by amateur versifiers from all over the Shore. Perhaps the most interesting item is Dale Wimbrow's song "The Good Ole Eastern Shore," which, if anything can be so called, is the theme song of the peninsula.⁹ Wimbrow, a native of Whaleysville in Worcester County, has written other poetry which has appeared in various periodicals including *The American Magazine*. Some of the verses in Mr. Thurston's book deal with such subjects as: The Wicomico Hotel in Salisbury, the Old School Baptist Church, and Dr. F. McFadden Dick, then a prominent surgeon in Salisbury. In his *A Scrapbook of Poetical Tributes to Mr. and Mrs. Salisbury and the Eastern Shore* (1942), Mr. Thurston goes so far as to write a verse about nearly every prominent person and institution in Salisbury. At best the quality of Mr. Thurston's versification is rather poor. Although he was on occasion able to blossom forth with something approaching poetry, the greater bulk of his work can hardly be called by that name. He did, however, a worthwhile service to his community by making it conscious of its own abilities, charms, and personalities.

Of somewhat better literary quality is Alexander Piper's *Song of the Winds* (1937). A one time resident of Mardela in Wicomico County, Mr. Piper has written verses for both children and adults. In extremely simple diction and structure, he deals with a number of general topics, none of which treat of the Shore scene.

A single poem dealing with the Shore theme that is worthy of mention is Elinor Wylie's "Wild Peaches" which appears in her *Collected Poems* (1938). In her very professional and accomplished manner, Mrs. Wylie sings the praises of the abundant good living to be found in this area. Comparing it with New England, she finds it to be truly a garden spot.

The charms of tidewater Talbot County find expression in Adelaide Eliza Keester's *Voices of Maryland and Other Poems* (1942). A resident of Talbot, Mrs. Keester manages to capture at least a glimpse of the flavor of that area. In her "Voices of Maryland" she writes:

"O for the scent of the salt marsh fragrant,
The shallow depth of the land locked bay;
Where countless the crafty green crabs played vagrant
And sated in saline the oyster beds lay."

A descriptive work dealing with Shore places and people of interest in verse is Charles T. Duvall's *The Maryland Scene* (1943). Illustrated with photographs and entirely in couplets, this book would be very much at home in the descriptive section of the department of non-fictional prose, if it were in prose. More interesting than poetic, it includes such topics as: "Joshua Thomas," "The Wye Oak," "Kitty Knight's Defiance," etc.

Certainly the greatest contribution to the poetry of the Shore since the turn of the century is Gilbert Byron's *These Chesapeake Men* (1943). A native of Chestertown and an alumnus of Washington College, Byron grew up along the Chester River and the Chesapeake Bay. In this book, he gives us a first hand picture of the true flavor of that interesting and colorful section.

Utilizing irony and humor, he very entertainingly captures the color of the tidewater area. The first stanza of his "Chesapeake Bunyan" runs as follows:

"Deals Island People, I heard tell,
Must haul in dirt to dig a well,
The land's so low, it's an easy tote
To pick their butter beans from a boat."

He strikes a serious note in deploring the "invasion" of the canning houses along the waterfronts. In "Chesapeake Change" he writes:

"I sailed away, heavy eyed,
From shores once white with oyster shells,
Shores littered now with tin can hells."

His longest poem is a balladlike narrative work entitled "The Parson of the Isles." Written to music, it tells the tale of the legendary Joshua Thomas, Methodist preacher of the islands of the lower Chesapeake. Amply illustrated with water colors, this book is one of the best to appear on the bay scene.

A somewhat irregular writer, Byron utilizes conventional couplets as well as free verse in his poetry. While his structure and style are not always commendable, his content is both entertaining and enlightening. His other works include: *Delaware Poems* (1943), a very comprehensive verse picture of Delaware with a concentration on the area around Lewes, and *White Collar and Chain* (1945), the poetic expression of his personal beliefs about the overwhelming oppression of modern day society on the soul and spirit of man.

In John Gill's *Yesterday's a Festival* (1944), we find personal expression in a variety of verse forms. A resident of Oxford, Gill utilizes everything from free verse to sonnets to write about such things as: "The Primitive Mother," "The Dawn of Civilization," and "Stanzas to a Buzzard." An interesting hodge-podge of versification and subject matter, this book shows a trend toward what is now termed "modern poetry."

A book using a tidewater background, for romantic expression is Eleanor Glenn Wallis' *Tidewater Country* (1944). In a form more nearly approaching free verse than anything else, Miss Wallis couches her romantic inspirations in terms peculiar to the tidewater section of the Shore. One of her poems specifically deals with All Hallows Church in Snow Hill. Another, "Sea Island Duck, Chincoteague," mentions the ponies out on the flats.

Lila Gossage Trader's *Tred Avon* (1945) is a recollective poem about the author's youth along the river of that name in Talbot County. In quatrains, it captures some of the charm of the river area as it appears to someone looking back to their acquaintance with it.

The last volume of poetry to appear on the Shore scene is definitely of the modern school. In her *Doors to a Narrow House* (1946), Margaret Stavelly, a resident of Lynch in Kent County and an alumna of Washington College, has utilized practically every modern device known to present day poets. With free verse, uncapitalized lines, and broken sentences, she has presented some of the ponderings of modern day man. With mundane allusions, similar to those of Walt Whitman and Carl Sandburg, she deals with human emotions and desires that must necessarily struggle for survival in this complex world. A fairly effective work, this book brings Eastern Shore poetry completely up to the present.

CONCLUSION

At this point it should be rather evident that, in spite of its many handicaps, the Eastern Shore has produced a literature of which it need not be ashamed. Through the pages of the many works referred to here it is possible to obtain a fairly comprehensive picture and feeling of the Shore's life in many of its aspects. Although the Shore has had no Edith Wharton, William Faulkner, or Samuel Clemens or even anyone approaching their stature, it has had a bit of Willa Cather and Nathaniel Hawthorne in Sophie Kerr Underwood and a touch of Charles Dickens in George Alfred Townsend. And although it has had no Robert Frost or Carl Sandburg to sing its songs, it has had a host of minor versifiers who have each warbled a note or two. Judging by its past, the future holds great promise for the literature of the Shore. And while much has already been written, the potentialities for even more in the future are exceedingly good.

To the reader who is interested in taking a "literary look" at the Eastern Shore of Maryland, I would suggest that he begin with the following short list:

George Alfred Townsend:	<i>The Entailed Hat</i>
A. R. Beverly-Giddings:	<i>River of Rogues</i>
Sophie Kerr:	<i>One Thing is Certain</i>
	<i>Mareea-Maria</i>
Fulton Oursler:	<i>Joshua Todd</i>
Waters Edward Turpin:	<i>These Low Grounds</i>
Swepson Earle:	<i>The Chesapeake Bay Country</i>
Hulbert Footner:	<i>The Rivers of the Eastern Shore</i>
Gilbert Byron:	<i>These Chesapeake Men</i>

NOTES, CHAPTER XXXVII

1. A recent treatment of the Claiborne story is found in Don Tracy's *Chesapeake Cavalier* (1949).

2. There seems to be considerable debate on the truth of the Kitty Knight story. Although the towns of Georgetown and Fredericktown were burned by the British, there is no mention of Miss Knight in any of the authoritative works on this subject. Whether or not Kitty did defend her house as Miss Crownfield has described seems to be uncertain.

3. These tournaments, which incidentally are still held occasionally on the Shore, feature a competition in which the accomplished young horsemen of the region attempt to strike down a small suspended ring with a prescribed lance while their horses are at a run. For a list of the rules of this competition see the appendix of Sophie Kerr's *One Thing is Certain* (1922).

4. Not a native of the Shore, Ingraham was one of the creators of the "dime novels" in American fiction.

5. Although these stories appear to be fictional in character, they are, according to their author, actual character sketches of Negroes that lived on his father's plantation.

6. Paul Wilstach, *Tidewater Maryland* (Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill, 1931), pp. 161-162.

7. A native and resident of near Willards, Miss Dennis contributed many poems to the *Salisbury Advertiser* during the 1870s and '80s.

8. Marine's most important contribution to Maryland history is his *The British Invasion of Maryland 1812-1815* (Baltimore, 1913).

9. This song, which was written in 1926, appears on page 19 of Mr. Thurston's book. Although it is known in Wicomico and Worcester counties (the author learned it when a student at the high school in Salisbury), it is not familiar to the majority of the residents of the Shore.

8. BIBLIOGRAPHY

General

- Bulletin of The Eastern Shore Society of Baltimore City.* Baltimore, 1928-1943. Catalogs of Books from Numbers: Two (July 20, 1932) and Four (1939-1943).
- Noble, E. M., and Tubbs, E. T., ed. *Maryland in Prose and Poetry.* Baltimore: Lehmen Printing Co., 1909.
- Shepherd, Henry E. *The Representative Authors of Maryland.* New York: Whitehall Publishing Co., 1911.
- Steiner, Bernard C. A typewritten treatise on Maryland authors who have worked and lived in Maryland as of 1908. In Maryland Room of Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore.
- Tolles, Winton. Bibliography of Eastern Shore Novels found in *A Study of Personal and Sociological Organization: An Explorative Survey of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*, by Frank Goodwin. Philadelphia, 1944.

Historical Fiction

- Babcock, W. H. *The Tower of Wye.* Philadelphia: Henry F. Coates & Co., 1901.
- Beverly-Giddings, A. R. *River of Rogues.* New York: William Morrow & Co., 1948.
- Churchill, Winston. *Richard Carvel.* New York: Macmillan Co., 1899.
- Crownfield, Gertrude. *Conquering Kitty.* Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co., 1935.
- Fuller, Edmund. *A Star Pointed North.* New York: Harper & Bros., 1946.
- Goodwin, Maud Wilder. *Sir Christopher.* Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1901.
- Grant, Dorothy Freemont. *Margaret Brent-Adventurer.* New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1944.
- Greenbie, Marjorie Barstow. *My Dear Lady.* New York: Whittlesey House., 1940.
- Messenger, R. W. *Patty Cannon Administers Justice.* Federalsburg, Md.: J. W. Stowell Co., 1926.
- Nels (Nelson), R. H. *The Unpolished Diamond.* Federalsburg, Md.: J. W. Stowell Co., 1930.
- Noble, Hollister. *Woman with a Sword.* New York: Doubleday & Co., 1948.
- Norton, Andre. *Follow the Drum.* New York: Wm. Penn Publishing Co., 1942.
- Parrish, Anne. *A Clouded Star.* New York: Harper & Bros., 1948.
- Stimpson, Herbert B. *The Tory Maid.* New York: Dodd, Mead & Co., 1898.
- Swanson, Neil H. *The Judas Tree.* New York: Grosset & Dunlap, 1933.
- Thurston, Lucy Meacham. *Mistress Brent.* Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1902.
- Townsend, George Alfred. *Katy of Catoctin.* New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1886.
- . *The Entailed Hat.* New York: Harper & Bros., 1884.

Romantic Fiction

- Adeler, Max. *Out of the Hurly-Burly.* Philadelphia: P. Garret & Co., 1874.
- Babcock, W. H. *Kent Fort Manor.* Philadelphia: Henry F. Coates & Co., 1903.
- Barr, Martin W. *The King of Thomond.* Boston: Henry B. Turner & Co., 1907.
- Blanchard, Amy E. *Betty of Wye.* Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co., 1897.
- Emory, Frederick. *A Maryland Manor.* New York: Frederick Stokes Co., 1901.
- Finley, Martha. *Elsie Dinsmore.* New York: Dodd, Mead & Co., 1867.
- Meekins, Lynn Roby. *Adam Rush.* Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co., 1902.
- . *The Robb's Island Wreck and Other Stories.* Chicago: Stone and Kimball, 1894.
- Townsend, George Alfred. *Bohemian Days.* New York: H. Campbell & Co., 1880.
- . *Tales of the Chesapeake.* New York: American News Co., 1880.
- Willis, J. S. *John Martin, Jr.: A Story of the Iron Mask.* Wilmington, Del., 1892.

Realistic Fiction

- Bellah, James Warner. *White Piracy*. New York: Farrar & Rinehart., 1933.
- . *The Bones of Napoleon*. New York: D. Appleton Century Co., 1940.
- Carroll, Eleanor Elliott. *Chariot of the Sun*. Philadelphia: The Penn Publishing Co., 1938.
- Currier, Theodore W. *The Mystery of Rockdale-A Tale of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*. Millersville, Pa.: Millersville Press., 1930.
- Dos Passos, John. *U. S. A.* New York: Harcourt, Brace & Co., 1938.
- Ford, Leslie, III *Met by Moonlight*. New York: Dell Publishing Co., 1937.
- Gill, John. *In His Own Country*. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1935.
- Howard, Warren. *Eastern Shore*. New York: Arcadia House Publications, 1935.
- Kerr, Sophie. *Jenny Devlin*. New York: Farrar & Rinehart, Inc., 1943.
- . *Mareca-Maria*. New York: Doubleday, Doran & Co., 1929.
- . *One Thing is Certain*. New York: A. L. Burt Co., 1922.
- . *Sound of Petticoats and Other Stories of the Eastern Shore*. New York: Rinehart & Co., 1948.
- . *The Beautiful Woman*. New York: Farrar & Rinehart, Inc., 1940.
- Lawrence, Hilda. *The Pavilion*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1946.
- McCord, Joseph. *Bugles Going By*. Philadelphia: Penn Publishing Co., 1933.
- Oursler, Fulton. *Joshua Todd*. New York: Farrar & Rinehart., 1935.
- Rademaker, Lee. *The Resurrection of R. K. 7 Ranch*. Boston: Meador Publishing Co., 1943.
- Selby, John. *Elegant Journey*. New York: Farrar & Rinehart, Inc., 1944 .
- Shields, D. *The Gentleman from Maryland*. Boston: Richard G. Badger., 1924.
- Turpin, Waters Edward. *These Low Grounds*. New York: Harper & Bros., 1937.
- Valtin, Jan. *Castle in the Sand*. New York: The Beechhurst Press, 1947.
- Walker, Mannix. *The Lonely Carrot*. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co., 1947.
- Warren, Benjamin C., and Parkinson, Robert L. *The Christian Pirate*. Philadelphia, 1911.
- West, Evelyn. *Animal Fair*. New York: J. B. Lippincott Co., 1945.

Non-Fictional Prose

- Arber, Edward and Bradley, A. G., ed. *Travels and Works of Captain John Smith*. Edinburgh: John Grant, 1910.
- Asbury, Francis. *Journal of Francis Asbury*. 3 vols., New York: Lane & Scott, 1852.
- Barrie, Robert and George, Jr. *Cruises, Mainly in the Chesapeake*. Philadelphia: Franklin Press, 1909.
- Board of Education, Caroline County, Md. *History of Caroline County, Md.* Federalsburg, Md.: J. W. Stowell Co., 1920.
- Bowen, Littleton P. *The Days of Makemie*. Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication, 1885.
- Bradley, Sidney B. *The Life of Bishop Richard Whatcoat*. Louisville, Ky.: Pentecostal Pub. Co., 1936.
- Clark, William B. *Lambert Wickes—Sea Raider and Diplomat*. New Haven, Conn.: Yale University Press, 1932.
- Conrad, Earl. *Harriet Tubman*. Washington: Associated Publications, Inc., 1943.
- Dennis, Alfred Pearce. *Gods and Little Fishes*. Indianapolis: Bobbs Merrill Co., 1924.
- Dickinson, John. *Writings of John Dickinson*. Paul L. Ford, ed. Philadelphia: Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1895.
- Douglass, Frederick. *My Bondage and My Freedom*. Boston: Anti-Slavery Office, 1845.
- . *Life and Times of Frederick Douglass*. Boston: DeWolfe, Fiske & Co., 1892.
- Earle, Swepson and Skirven, Percy. *Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore*. Baltimore: Medical Standard Book Co., 1916.
- Earle, Swepson, ed. *The Chesapeake Bay Country*. Baltimore: Thomsen-Ellis Co., 1923.
- Footner, Hulbert. *Maryland Main and the Eastern Shore*. New York: D. Appleton Century Co., 1942.

- . *Rivers of the Eastern Shore*. New York: Farrar & Rinehart, Inc., 1944.
- Ford, Harry Pringle. *History of Manokin Presbyterian Church, Princess Anne, Md.* Philadelphia, 1910.
- Fox, George. *Journal*. Philadelphia: Friends' Book Store (n.d.).
- Goldsborough, Edmund K. *Ole Mars and Ole Miss*. Washington: National Publishing Co., 1900.
- Hanson, George A. *Old Kent-The Eastern Shore of Maryland*. Baltimore: John P. Des Forges, 1876.
- Harris, Evelyn. *The Barter Lady*. New York: Doubleday, Doran, 1934.
- . *The Farmer and his Wife*. Betterton, Md., 1924.
- Harrison, Samuel A. *Wenlock Christian and the Early Friends in Talbot County*. Baltimore: Maryland Historical Society, 1878.
- Heck, Earl L. W. *Augustine Herrman*. Richmond: The William Byrd Press, 1941.
- Higgins, Martin M. *History of the Reincarnation of Easton, Md.* Easton, Md.: Star-Democrat Press, 1926.
- Hill, Norman A., ed. *Chesapeake Cruise*. Baltimore: George W. King Printing Co., 1944.
- Howell, Wm. R. *The Government of Kent County*. Chestertown, Md., 1931.
- Ingraham, Prentiss. *Land of Legendary Lore*. Easton, Md., 1898.
- Johnston, George. *History of Cecil County, Md.* Elkton, Md., 1881.
- Jones, Elias. *Revised History of Dorchester County*. Baltimore: Read Taylor Press, 1925.
- Murray, Rev. James. *History of Pocomoke City*. Baltimore, 1883.
- Page, I. Marshall. *Old Buckingham by the Sea*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1936.
- . *The Life Story of Rev. Francis Makemie*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Wm. B. Eerdmans Pub. Co., 1938.
- Pyle, Howard. "A Peninsular Canaan." *Harper's New Monthly Magazine*, May, 1879.
- Radcliff, George L. P. Gov. Thomas H. Hicks of Maryland and the Civil War. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1902.
- Scarborough, Katherine. *Homes of the Cavaliers*. New York: Macmillan Co., 1930.
- Semmes, Raphael. *Captains and Mariners of Early Maryland*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1937.
- Seth, Joseph B. and Mary W. *Recollections of a Long Life on the Eastern Shore*. Easton, Md. (n.d.).
- Shannahan, John H. K., Jr. *Steamboatin' Days*. Baltimore: Norman Publishing Co., 1930.
- . *Tales of Old Maryland*. Baltimore: Press of Meyer and Thalheimer, 1907.
- Skirven, Percy G. I. U.—*A Historic Shrine in Old Kent*. Baltimore, 1931.
- Starr, Ida M. H. *Beyond the Sunset*. Eau Claire, Wis.: Eau Claire Book and Stationery Shop, 1921.
- . *The Amazing Finale*. Boston: Christopher Publishing House, 1927.
- Thom, De Courcy W. *Old Wye Church of Old Wye Parish, Md.* a pamphlet. Centreville ?, 1930.
- Thurston, W. C. ed., *The Eastern Shore of Maryland in Song and Story*. Federalsburg, Md.: J. W. Stowell Co., 1938.
- Tilghman, Oswald. *History of Talbot County, Md.* Baltimore: The Williams Co., 1915.
- . *Memoir of Lt. Col. Tench Tilghman*. Albany, N. Y., 1876.
- Todd, Rev. Robert W. *Methodism of the Peninsula*. Philadelphia: Methodist Episcopal Book Rooms, 1886.
- Torrence, Clayton. *Old Somerset on the Eastern Shore of Maryland*. Richmond, 1935.
- Truitt, Charles J. *Historic Salisbury, Maryland*. Garden City, N. Y.: Country Life Press, 1932.
- Usilton, Fred G. *History of Kent County, Md.* Chestertown, Md., 1916.
- Vallandigham, Edw. N. *Delaware and the Eastern Shore*. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co., 1922.
- Wallace, Adam. *The Parson of the Islands*. Philadelphia: Methodist Home Journal, 1861.
- Wilson, Robert. *Half Forgotten By-Ways of the Old South*. Columbia, S. C., 1928.
- Wilstach, Paul. *Tidewater Maryland*. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill, 1931.

- Woodcock, A. W. W. *Elizabeth W. Woodcock of Chatillon*. Salisbury, Md., 1947.
 Writers' Program of the Works Projects Administration. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1940.

Poetry

- Archer-Burton, E. *Silver Wings and Other Gems of Thought and Verse*. East Aurora, N. Y.: The Roycrofters, 1920.
 Bowen, Littleton P. *Makemieland Memorials*. Richmond: Whittet & Shepperson, 1910.
 Byron, Gilbert. *Delaware Poems*. Montpelier, Vt.: Driftwood Press, 1943.
 ———. *These Chesapeake Men*. Montpelier, Vt.: Driftwood Press, 1943.
 ———. *White Collar and Chain*. Montpelier, Ver.: Driftwood Press, 1945.
 Dennis, Amanda Elizabeth. *Asphodels and Pansies*. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co., 1888.
 Duvall, Charles T. *The Maryland Scene*. Baltimore, 1943.
 Gill, John. *Yesterday's a Festival*. Baltimore: Remington-Putman Book Co., 1944.
 Johnston, George, ed. *The Poets and Poetry of Cecil County, Md.* Elkton, Md., 1887.
 Keester, Adelaide Eliza. *Voices of Maryland and Other Poems*. Easton, Md.: Easton Publishing Co., 1942.
 Marine, William M. *The Battle of North Point and Other Poems*. Baltimore, 1901.
 McAlpin, John. *Ebb-Tide—A Book of Poems*. Boston: The Four Seas Company, 1925.
 McKinsey, Folger. *A Rose of the Old Regime*. Baltimore: Doxey Book Shop Company, 1907.
 ———. *Songs of the Daily Life*. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins Co., 1911.
 Perine, George. *The Poets and Verse Writers of Maryland*. Cincinnati, Ohio: Editor Publishing Co., 1898.
 Piper, Alexander. *Song of the Winds*. Federalsburg, Md.: J. W. Stowell Co., 1937.
 Stavely, Margaret. *Doors to a Narrow House*. New York: Hobson Book Press, 1946.
 Steiner, Bernard C., ed. *Early Maryland Poetry, the Works of Ebenezer Cooke, gent.* Baltimore: J. Murphy Co., 1900.
 Thurston, W. C., ed. *Little Journeys Throughout the Eastern Shore of Delaware, Maryland and Virginia*. published monthly in Salisbury, Md., 1926-1929.
 ———. *A Scrapbook of Poetical Tributes to Mr. and Mrs. Salisbury and the Eastern Shore*. Salisbury, Md., 1942.
 Townsend, George Alfred. *Poems*. Washington: Rhodes & Ralph, 1870.
 ———. *Poems of Men and Events*. New York, 1899.
 Trader, Lila Gossage. *Tred Avon*. Easton, Md., 1945.
 Wallis, Eleanor Glenn. *Tidewater Country*. Prairie City, Ill.: James A. Decker, 1944.
 Welby, Amelia B. C. *Poems by Amelia*. Boston: A. Tompkins, Cornhill, 1845.
 Wylie, Elinor. *Collected Poems*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1938.

CHAPTER XXXVIII

Libraries on the Eastern Shore

By Raymond B. Clark, Jr.*

I. INTRODUCTION

The State of Maryland for many years has maintained high library standards. The Eastern Shore, while not as well served as Baltimore City and other more populous sections, has made rapid progress. The general narrative has discussed the "Laymen's Libraries," and others established by the Reverend Thomas Bray, sent by the Bishop of London to establish Episcopal churches on a solid basis in Maryland shortly after the colony became royally controlled and the Established Church was made the state religion.¹

In the modern period, the Eastern Shore had two public libraries established before 1900. A Lyceum and Library were founded in Salisbury in 1869 while a Mercantile Library was opened in Easton in 1895.² These compare with the Baltimore subscription library founded in 1795, the "apprentice's library" of 1822, the Mercantile Library of 1839, and the three magnificent collections started in the latter nineteenth century—the Peabody Institute Library, the Johns Hopkins University Library and the Enoch Pratt Free Library.³ The Maryland State Library Commission's Report for 1903 listed only three public libraries in the entire state: the Enoch Pratt Free Library of Baltimore City, the Washington County Library at Hagerstown, and a library at Queens-town in Queen Anne's County.⁴

The recent progress of libraries has been aided greatly by the Maryland State Library Association. In addition, civic-social influences—library companies, literary societies, tradesmen library societies, and others—sponsored some of Maryland's libraries around 1900. As organizations of this type declined, groups like women's clubs began to take over library sponsorship in various communities as their main projects by which communities could profit throughout the year.⁵

The Maryland Library Extension, an effective liaison group between the State Department of Education and the Enoch Pratt Free Library of Baltimore, noted fifteen libraries on the Eastern Shore in its 1948 list of public libraries in the State.⁶ Not included, of course, are the fine libraries of Washington College at Chestertown, State Teachers College at Salisbury, Maryland State

* Son of Raymond B. and Sara Seth Clark, and a great-nephew of the late General Joseph B. Seth of Talbot County; attended public schools of Talbot County and graduated with high honors from Washington College in 1940; awarded M.A. degree in history from University of Pennsylvania and is currently a member of the staff of the Sterling Memorial Library of Yale University, while doing historical research. Has contributed to *Maryland Historical Magazine*.

College at Princess Anne, the reference collection and the library of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Diocese of Easton,⁷ and the public school libraries. Two libraries receiving no mention in any survey but known by the author are the St. Michael's Library in Talbot County, now sponsored by the Women's Club of St. Michael's, and the library at Sudlersville in upper Queen Anne's County. The latter was built upon the foundations of what was once a museum. The library is now completely equipped, housed, and staffed, and is connected with the excellent Queen Anne's County Free Library at Centreville.

Although by narrow definition there are only two county libraries on the Eastern Shore, in Talbot and Wicomico, there are three others that might soon be included in this classification. Of these the Queen Anne's Public Library is most outstanding in 1949. This library has possibly met all of the requirements of the Library Law of 1945 and of subsequent legislation to make it in all respects a county library. Cecil and Dorchester counties have the buildings, staffs, and books at their disposal to establish county-wide service. Many counties, to make county libraries possible, have passed legislation providing for a levy for library support. Yet in two counties, Caroline and Worcester, less than ten percent of the people had access to county library facilities in 1944.⁸

Seventy percent of the Maryland Negroes outside of Baltimore City do not enjoy the advantages of library service. It is noteworthy that two Eastern Shore counties—Queen Anne's and Dorchester—have taken the lead in Maryland libraries by establishing separate Negro branches. That at Centerville is called the Phyllis Wheatley Public Library. The other is located in Cambridge.⁹ Other counties have extended library service to Negroes. The Talbot County Free Library since 1946 has established a special Negro collection. The Chestertown Public Library has also aided the Negro high school by the loan of books and materials. There are still libraries on the Eastern Shore, however, that offer no service to Negroes.

There was no direct correlation in 1944 between the per capita assessed valuation in the counties and the per capita amount spent on library service. The county with the highest per capita library income, Talbot, ranked seventh in per capita assessed valuation in the state.¹⁰ Over two-thirds of the library income in the state in 1944 came from governmental sources—municipal or county. Town authorities provided forty-two percent, county officials twenty-six percent, and the remaining thirty-two percent came from gifts, income on endowments, and miscellaneous sources such as fines and charges for borrowers' cards.¹¹

Administratively, there are several types of library control. The most common on the Eastern Shore is the library board exclusive of control or influence by the town officials. The members of the boards are chosen in several ways: elected by popular vote, appointed by the mayor or other officials, or they are self-perpetuating.¹² The 1949 Library Law provided that either county or town governments could form new libraries. Few libraries have been organized since these recent laws have gone into effect. The personnel of the library boards indicate these backgrounds: professional, financial, manufacturing and business, and miscellaneous, including housewives.¹³

Providing adequate pay for the library staff is an important problem in Maryland. There is no comparable public service operating within the state's borders that is administered on such an extensive scale by volunteers or untrained professional staffs. Only since 1945 has a state-wide uniformity in

matters relating to libraries and salaries been attempted.¹⁴ Also included are retirement and other such benefits.

An ideal library meets five objectives: education, information, aesthetic appreciation, recreation, and research as well as adult and vocational education and service to young people and children.¹⁵ But most county or community libraries on the Eastern Shore possess chiefly light fiction, the gifts of interested persons. The budgets ordinarily allow few new books to be purchased. Non-fiction, children's books, reference works, periodical collections, and picture files too often are missing. Each community needs a trained librarian who can analyze the tone of the community and discover the books that will serve the area most effectively.¹⁶ Budgets for the small libraries on the Eastern Shore make all-around collections impossible. Citizens have to look to some central reservoir of books. The local library normally contains only the currently popular fiction and non-fiction, a small reference collection, and a children's collection. Although the survey committee recommended a figure far beyond present hopes for a small county or community library—the goal was listed at six thousand volumes—many of this survey's suggestions have been adopted.¹⁷

Eastern Shore libraries are working hard to bolster themselves. The American Library Association standards require that sixty percent of the books of the adult collection be non-fiction with juvenile and children's books accounting for twenty-five percent of the total. Few libraries can reach these rigid requirements. The most neglected subjects in the Eastern Shore libraries have been language and philology, religion, fine arts, and the social sciences. The college libraries have made up for some deficiencies. But the Eastern Shore lacks a real religious or fine arts center. In recent years various churches have been collecting their histories, while music, dramatic, and art clubs have done excellent work, being pushed forward by many young couples and servicemen. In one respect only—local history—have Eastern Shore libraries been ahead of national requirements. This can easily be attributed to love of old families and towns possessed by natives. Five of the larger libraries and several smaller ones have separate local history sections. Those at Salisbury, Cambridge, Easton, Centreville, and Elkton are unique, while others at Chestertown, Princess Anne, and St. Michael's are making good starts. Few Eastern Shore libraries maintain pamphlet collections or picture files. This is due mainly to lack of space. Many libraries have to discard their old magazines, periodicals and newspapers. The Talbot County Free Library, which is the finest on the Eastern Shore, has both a pamphlet collection and picture and biographical files. Many libraries keep magazines for only five or ten years. Others have almost no subscriptions. A large number are given to libraries as gifts. *National Geographic*, *Readers Digest*, *Popular Mechanics*, *Life* and *Time* were the most popular titles indicated in a recent survey.¹⁸

Most libraries on the Shore are housed in public buildings or in quarters belonging to some public-minded organization.¹⁹ Salisbury and Cambridge have separate buildings. Easton has many public offices in the same building as its library; Elkton is analogous to Easton, while Centreville, Chestertown, St. Michael's and Princess Anne own their own buildings but rent out space in their property or permit other organizations to use their quarters. Many of the Eastern Shore libraries have been located in basements, old rooms, or on second floors. The time has come, however, when libraries are receiving better accommodations. More attention will be given also to providing separate children's rooms with outside entrances.²⁰

Four libraries on the Eastern Shore serve the public from thirty-five to seventy-two hours a week. They are the Queen Anne's, Talbot, Dorchester, and Wicomico libraries. Bookmobile service and sub-stations, whether they be in schools, public places, or private homes in the smaller towns, are a vital part of the county's library program. The magnificent strides already made by the various libraries on the Eastern Shore must be continued through local, county, and state aid as they strive to reach the goals set up by the Maryland State Library Commission.

2. CAROLINE COUNTY

Caroline County has two libraries: the Ridgely Community Library and the Woman's Club Library at Federalsburg. The former was founded by Mrs. Albert White and a few friends in 1920. Together they secured one hundred volumes for the beginning of the library's collection. After a few years the library was taken over by the Ridgely Community Club and staffed entirely by volunteers. Members at one time paid yearly dues of fifty cents and in return were allowed to take out three items—one fiction, one non-fiction, and one magazine—at a time.

The library has occupied four different locations: a vacant store room, space in an old kindergarten building, a second floor room over the bank, and finally, its present location in the Community Club building on a lot owned by the Firemen. The library board consists of eleven members appointed for one year and eligible for reappointment. They are elected by a vote of the members at the annual meeting. The board holds quarterly meetings.

The Ridgely Community Library is financed by local funds. The Town Commissioners donate one hundred dollars a year, a patron gives fifty dollars, and an annual bake sale is held in October which nets on the average one hundred and twenty-five dollars—totalling almost three hundred dollars a year for the budget. There is no tax rate, nor are dues charged.

The library at present has seventy-five patrons. It continues to receive gifts of books which, on the average, add fifty volumes to the library each year. The Carnegie Library Fund donated one hundred books, chiefly on foreign travel. Five magazines are donated and several are subscribed to annually.

There are twenty-five hundred books in the collection, including reference works, fiction, non-fiction, mystery, and children's books. The annual circulation is about four thousand books. There are one hundred borrowers. The Library Board has been co-operative with the schools. An adult and a children's case is sent to the library every three months by the Division of Library Extension of the State Board of Education. The library is open to the public three hours on Saturday each week. The present librarian is Mrs. Paul Hoffman.²¹

The Woman's Club Library at Federalsburg is another illustration of what great community pride and spirit can achieve. Few Eastern Shore towns can match Federalsburg in community achievement and loyalty. The Library in question started on one shelf in the Woman's Club room over the Post Office approximately twenty years ago. It has now grown to well over 2,300 books and is increasing in size steadily, now being located in a comfortable room of its own in the Club House. Although the books are owned by the Club, they are available to everybody. Readers are fairly evenly divided between men and women; children make great use of the library, especially in the summer. A librarian, paid a nominal fee, is on duty on each club day and one evening a

week. Books may be ordered through her from the State Library Commission. Small fees and charges help to finance the purchase of a few books each month. The collection is well-rounded for a library of this size. Mrs. Gilbert Tull is librarian.²²

3. CECIL COUNTY

There are two libraries in Cecil County—the Cecil County Library at Elkton and the Cecilton Community Library. The former grew out of the Elkton Public Library Association whose library was given to the county in August, 1937. Financial support was provided by the County Commissioners, the Town of Elkton, and popular subscription. The operating budget for the first year was well under a thousand dollars. The funds were spent largely on equipment, rent, and services. The book collection grew as many interested citizens donated books. Lacking a Bookmobile, county-wide book services were nevertheless provided. The State Director of Public Libraries sent many boxes of books on long term loans. The records show evidence of strong popular interest in the new library, and the first Executive Committee under the presidency of Frank du Pont Thompson set up a progressive plan.

From the beginning, this library has been hampered by diminutive funds and frequent change in housing. The present location of the Headquarters library in Elkton Town Hall has been readily accepted and appreciated by the community, and has been an important factor in the library's growth.

The library was again reorganized under the Maryland Library Law of 1945. Miss Olive Reynolds was chairman of the committee which successfully aroused popular support for a better county library. Governor William Preston Lane appointed the first library board of which John M. Smith of North East was elected first president. The library board bought a Bookmobile, and in May, 1947, appointed Miss Ruth Miller, a trained and experienced librarian, to head the new organization. By June, 1949, there had been established 47 library centers. At that time, the library owned more than 8,000 books, and reported an annual circulation of 48,000, more than half being juvenile.

Administrative offices have been set up on Blue Ball Road, two miles out of Elkton. However, housing and adequate funds remain major problems. The Library Board and friends of the Library are about to launch a popular drive for money and furniture.

The immediate purposes of this new and still undeveloped library have been stated by the board: "For inspiration in your personal lives, for the development of your children, for information and recreation." More active participation in community living is a goal of the future and is conditioned upon better financial support.

The Cecil County Library is governed according to the Maryland Law of 1945, the governor appointing seven board members to terms of seven years. The group elects its own officers each year. The librarian is an *ex officio* member of the board and serves as secretary.

The library is staffed by four full-time persons, headed by Miss Ruth Miller, County Librarian, and including Mrs. Lucile Gransky, Assistant and Bookmobile Librarian, and the Misses Barbara Beck and Helen Henderson, clerks. From July, 1948, to June 30, 1949, forty-one volunteers contributed a total of 1,879 hours. The Elkton Branch is open 22½ hours a week; the stations—at Charlestown; Chesapeake City, South; Greenhurst, Perryville, Rising Sun—from two to six hours; and the Bookmobile's hours of operation vary. The library has

a small non-circulating reference section, carries more fiction than non-fiction, and is heavy in juvenile books.

The library of the Eastern Shore Society of Baltimore City is currently (1949-50) on loan to the Cecil County Library and is available to the public for one year after which it will be located at some other county seat. This is an excellent collection of Marylandia that includes some valuable Eastern Shore materials.²³

The Cecilton Community Library, Incorporated, was founded in October, 1939. Mrs. Harold Bailey, a citizen of the town, left her private library to the town. Her son, George K. Bailey, and his wife donated a building. The citizens, showing their appreciation, purchased the lot on which the building stood for the use of the library. It is a free library governed by a board of fifteen members. The annual meeting is combined with a "Tea" at which the library report is read and the citizens of the community elect the board members who serve for three years. The Town Council, however, has the power to select two citizens to serve on the board for a period of one year. Though the board meets whenever necessary, it usually has six meetings a year.

The library is financed by a membership fee of one dollar a year, an annual public dance, and by a tax rate, netting two hundred and fifty dollars in all. In 1942-43 there were eighty-one subscribers and by 1947-48 the number had increased. The library is open two hours on Tuesday afternoons and two hours Saturday evenings. Until 1948 the library was staffed entirely by volunteers. Now the librarian is paid a small annual sum.

There are approximately five thousand books, including fiction, non-fiction, biography and history, reference books, periodicals, and childrens' books. The circulation for 1939-40 was 1,200, but by 1946-47 it had reached 2,715. Students and teachers of the schools are steady users of the library. The present librarian is Mrs. Ernest Mann.²⁴

4. DORCHESTER COUNTY

Dorchester County has libraries at Cambridge, Hurlock, and Vienna. A separate branch library is maintained for Negroes. The Dorchester County Public Library in Cambridge is a modern, well-equipped library with a growing collection, a paid librarian, and a working schedule of more than thirty hours a week. It was incorporated in 1922 as a free county library. Previous to this it had been managed by the Women's Club of Cambridge. The present building, a Works Progress Administration project, was erected in 1939. The library is governed by a board of fifteen members. There have been only two librarians since 1922. Mrs. Margaret S. Henry, currently the librarian, has served since 1928. The library is financed by funds from both Cambridge and Dorchester counties, the latter contributing the greater amount. Voluntary subscriptions also have aided in its maintenance. There is no tax rate. Cambridge controls the building. There are approximately seven thousand books and the yearly circulation is about seventy-five hundred. The library contains fiction, non-fiction, reference, biographical, children's, Maryland, and general history books.²⁵

The Hurlock Free Library was founded in 1900 by Mr. H. R. Walworth, a close personal friend of Dr. Bernard C. Steiner who for many years was librarian of the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore. Mr. Walworth's private collection and some volumes donated by Dr. Steiner were the nucleus of the

first library at Hurlock. It was housed in Mr. Walworth's residence until 1906 when his ill health terminated this arrangement.

A group of young people under the name of Village Improvement Association voluntarily took over the library and rented a room in which to shelve the books. The Town Council later assumed the responsibility of the room rent. In 1925 the town provided the librarian with a salary. In 1928 a Board of Directors was organized and the library moved to its present location, a remodelled one-room schoolhouse. Expenses are shared by the town and county, the annual budget running about four hundred and fifty dollars. This library is governed by a Board of Directors of nine members who are practically self-perpetuating. The library is open to the public eight hours a week. The staff consists of a librarian and her assistant. There are about three thousand volumes with a circulation of 5,218 among 531 borrowers. There are fiction, non-fiction, and juvenile books. The library is generous in its aid to the public schools. It serves almost the entire northeastern section of the county. Mrs. Carolyn M. Barber is the secretary of the library board.²⁶

The Vienna Public Library was founded in 1939 by the Vienna Public Library Association. The latter was composed of a group of public-spirited women including Mrs. Otis McAllister, Mrs. Tracey Nesbitt, Mrs. Clarence Higgins, Miss Susan Hitch, Mrs. Grover Hackett, Mrs. Walton Phillips, Mrs. Frank Higgins, and Mrs. Harry Tillman. They solicited dollar membership fees from town citizens and purchased books and library supplies. Mr. Edgar Phillips donated a room for the library. There is a self-perpetuating library board of ten members which meets once a month. County and local officials contribute three hundred dollars annually to the upkeep of the library. In 1940 a room in the elementary school was obtained and Mrs. Allan Webb was appointed librarian, in which capacity she still serves. The library serves Elliott's Island, Reed's Grove, and Salem in addition to Vienna. Mr. Mano Swartz, of Baltimore, gave the Vienna Library over four hundred books in 1940. The total collection has risen to about 1,300 books with a circulation of approximately three thousand among some three hundred subscribers. The collection at present is mostly fiction.²⁷

5. KENT COUNTY

There is only one public library in Kent County—the Chestertown Public Library. It was founded by and is controlled by the Women's Literary Club. It is presently housed in a two-story brick building which was purchased in 1942 from the First Methodist Church. The Library Committee of the Literary Club exercises full control over the library. It is open to the public eight hours a week and available to the public are over seven thousand books. They circulate at the rate of approximately five hundred a month among three hundred borrowers.

The library is supported by membership drives and by the gifts of its friends. It was recently bequeathed over four thousand dollars by Miss Frances E. Stewart. This generous gift is being used to expand the club building and to add library space and facilities. Miss Elizabeth Stewart, sister of the library's benefactor, presented her private library which contains some of the Archives of Maryland and Delaware as well as some old magazines and fiction. The library's collection is typical of libraries of this size, and fairly well-rounded.

The present librarian is Miss Cornelia Davis. Her assistant is Mrs. Hackett

Emerson, with Mrs. Harry Baker as substitute librarian. Mrs. Ella P. Robinson, a long-time member of the Library Committee, writes a column, "Library Flashes," for one of the county newspapers. The library co-operates in every way possible with the public schools, both colored and white.²⁸

The George Avery Bunting Library of Washington College offers its excellent facilities to the people of the county and area.

6. QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY

This county is the home of the Queen Anne's County Free Library at Centreville, which maintains a separate Negro division called the Phyliss Wheatley Library, and the newly organized library at Sudlersville. There are several branch or station libraries of the Centreville Library. Frederic Emory's *History of Queen Anne's County* tells of a Library Company originating in Centreville in 1874. The present library has two books that have this old library's sticker of regulations and plate in them. A second reference to this library was uncovered in one of Mr. Edwin Brown's *Scrap Books*, dated 1877. It tells of the moving of the library to the Town Hall and of the purchase of many new books. This library was therefore a contemporary of the early libraries in Baltimore and of those founded in Salisbury and Easton on the Eastern Shore.

Miss Matilda B. Keating, the most efficient and able librarian of the Centreville Library, has preserved the history of this organization.²⁹ When the library was redecorated and enlarged in 1948, the *Queen Anne's Record-Observer* carried a four-page special feature describing its history, personnel, and finances. It also included excellent photographs of the interior of the new building.

When Mr. DeCourcy W. Thom, a Baltimore attorney who lived at nearby "Blakeford," sent a book case of books to the one-room library where Miss Annie Anthony served as librarian, he actually was furnishing the nucleus of the Centreville Free Public Library, founded on May 9, 1909. It opened its doors on June 3, 1909, with its quarters in the Chambers Building. In 1913 Miss Mary Johnson, who later became Mrs. Marvin Barton, resigned and Miss Matilda B. Keating was selected to replace her. The Library Board decided in 1917 to move from the Chambers Building to its present location. Mrs. Elmer Anthony, owner of the building, was a good friend of the library. From 1919 to 1926 the records are sparse but it is clear that the Library's existence was precarious. Funds were raised in many ways. Dollar-a-year subscriptions were supplemented by bazaars, plays, movies and card parties. Dr. Frederick G. Livingood brought the Washington College Orchestra to Centreville for a concert that netted almost fifty dollars for the Library. Even the proceeds from a wrestling match were given to the Library. The garden of Mrs. Edwin Brown, Jr., was the scene of a dinner for the Library's benefit. Somehow the Library managed to stay open as each financial crisis was met.

Gifts for the Library were forthcoming. Mrs. Martha Cahoon Gillespie, a teacher in the public schools, bequeathed almost five thousand dollars to the Library upon her death in 1917 with the stipulation that the Library become incorporated. The Rotary Club acted as sponsor for the Library when the will was contested. Mr. Charles Rich, in 1935, gave the Library one hundred dollars. With these two gifts and others as a basis, it was decided to remodel the Library. A bronze plaque was installed, the inscription upon which stated that improve-

ments were made possible by the legacy of Mrs. Gillespie in memory of her parents—Dr. Charles J. Cahoon and Martha J. Cahoon. Many local business men likewise contributed in various ways to the remodelling. Furniture was given and gifts came from several sources. Mr. James W. Foster, Director of the Maryland Historical Society, and Mr. Arthur Houghton, Jr. were most helpful. Judge Keating gave files of the *Centreville News*, dated March to September of 1861—the newspaper that Union troops destroyed.

In 1943 a drive for Maryland books was inaugurated. An outstanding gift from Mr. Charles Busteed was the clipping file of Frederic Emory's *History of Queen Anne's County*, which Mr. Busteed had published in the *Centreville Record* when he was editor in 1883-86. Mr. Arthur Houghton, Jr. financed for the Library in 1949 the publication of this history by the Maryland Historical Society. Mr. Edwin Brown's valuable Scrapbooks, numbering twelve, a source of much information on the county, have also been presented to the Library by Mr. Houghton.

The name of the Library was changed in 1944 from the Centreville Public Library Incorporated to the Queen Anne's County Free Library. Mrs. Margaret Woodford was made Assistant Librarian in 1945.

This Library has come into possession of several large collections, many as memorials, from James Bordley, Jr., Dr. John Mitchell, Dr. Harry Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Coursey, Allan L. Lane, and William Milnes Maloy. In late 1947 and early 1948 the Library again underwent extensive enlargement and remodelling. The formal reopening on November 6, 1948, had Emerson Greenway, Librarian of the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore, as the principal speaker. Thomas J. Keating, Jr., presented a history of the Library.³⁰

Prior to 1942 the Library was primarily financed by membership fees and gifts. From 1942 to 1945 the County Commissioners donated two hundred dollars and in 1946 gave one thousand dollars. The Library now owns its building, having paid off its debts by renting unused space. In 1947 a two cent levy in the tax rate was established by the County Commissioners, making the Library eligible for benefits from the State³¹

The Library gives extensive help to the public schools. The County School Board aids in transporting books to the schools as well as to stations at Queenstown, Grasonville, Church Hill and Stevensville. Miss Mary Cockey, of Stevensville, supplements her library of about eight hundred volumes with books from the Centreville collection, thereby providing library service for her community. Mrs. Earl Coursey maintains a station in her own home at Grasonville.

The Sudlersville Memorial Library, with Mrs. Charles Webster as Librarian, has transformed the old Methodist Church building into an attractive library and has progressed from a branch station of the Centreville Library to an independent Library providing service to Sudlersville and recently to the schools of the area.³²

The Queen Anne's County Free Library has almost three hundred volumes of Marylandia, including the Archives of Maryland, general histories, books on law, genealogies, biographical works, county and local histories, works on old homes, old churches, and a good collection of Maryland fiction. It is one of the best Maryland collections on the Eastern Shore. Other old books include valuable editions of the classics.³³ Altogether there are some thirteen thousand books, of which 1,200 are for children. Circulation increased almost sevenfold from 1942 to mid-1948, reaching over 20,000 a year. Circulation in 1947 alone doubled over the preceding year, showing the effect of the tax levy.³⁴

The Library is open nearly thirty hours a week. The Board of thirteen includes Miss Keating, whose indefatigable efforts are responsible for much of the Library's great success, and her capable assistant, Mrs. Walter Woodford.³⁵

7. SOMERSET COUNTY

Somerset County has two libraries—the Corbin Memorial Library at Crisfield and the Princess Anne Library. The Library at Crisfield was founded on May 29, 1930, as a memorial to Lilyan Stratton Corbin. A public library, it is governed by a board of twenty members who are elected for one-year terms. The County and Crisfield authorities each contribute two hundred dollars annually to the financial support of the Library. There are approximately four hundred subscribers who, along with the general public, have access during ten hours each week to nearly five thousand books including fiction, non-fiction, biography, history—Maryland and general—description and travel, science, children's and reference works. Periodicals and newspapers are also available. The circulation per year is about three thousand with over one hundred borrowers. The present Librarian is Mrs. E. R. Daugherty, whose services are voluntary.³⁶

The Princess Anne Public Library was founded by a group of local citizens around 1900. The Library owns its own building on Church Street. It is financed by a grant of four hundred dollars from the County. There is no tax levy, however. There are approximately three thousand books in the collection with a circulation approaching four thousand books per year among nine hundred borrowers. The Library makes books available to the schools. It has a good collection of history, reference works, and a small section of Marylandia in addition to the usual classifications of fiction, non-fiction, biography, and children's books. Mrs. J. Randolph Field is the Librarian and is assisted by volunteers.³⁷

8. TALBOT COUNTY

Talbot County has two libraries: The Talbot County Free Library at Easton and The Woman's Club Library of St. Michael's. The former is the largest and best library on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

The Talbot County Free Library Association elected a board and opened the first free county library on the Eastern Shore, at Easton in October, 1924. By January of 1925 there were 2100 books. The spark for this new project was furnished by Mrs. Caroline Burnite Walker. Having gained wide library experience in the Children's Department of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and at the Cleveland Public Library, she returned to her native Talbot County and served as President of the Library Board from 1925 to 1936 and as Librarian from 1932 to 1936. Mrs. Mary Startt Parkis, her assistant, became Librarian in 1936 and was succeeded in 1939 by Miss Louise Orem who had trained under Mrs. Walker and also had formal library training.³⁸

Since 1939 the Talbot County Free Library has published annual reports which may be consulted for a detailed account of its history. The Mayor and Council of Easton, the County Commissioners, the Board of Education, and many organizations and friends of the Library have all contributed to its rapid growth. Book service has been provided the schools. In addition, branch stations have been established at St. Michael's, Tilghman, Cordova, and Oxford. A Bookmobile makes this service possible. Discarded books are distributed to needy families, the hospitals, and to the Negro collection.³⁹

When the County Commissioners bought the old Music Hall the library was assured space in the front of the remodeled building. On June 7, 1941, the new library was formally dedicated and for the first time the Talbot County Free Library had adequate quarters. New books, equipment, and janitor service were provided by friends and operating expenses were paid from the annual grant of the Mayor and Council and the County Commissioners. The Director's Room, later to become the Maryland Room, was the gift of Mrs. William C. Chaplin, in memory of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Milo Curry.⁴⁰

The Children's Collection was augmented by the "Caroline Burnite Walker Collection," presented by Mrs. David Gillespie and Miss Mabel Gillespie. The circulation continued to increase each year and Miss Charlotte Fletcher succeeded Miss Louise Orem as Librarian. Plans were made for a vault in which to store rare materials.⁴¹

The Robert Bartlett Dixon II Memorial Collection, a varied and superb collection of Marylandia, was purchased by the Talbot County Free Library from Mr. J. Gilman D'Arcy Paul, one of the Maryland Historical Society's Vice Presidents. The acquisition of this collection was made possible by the generosity of Mrs. David Gillespie and Mr. and Mrs. James Dixon. This collection includes Maryland imprints, books, pamphlets, early Americana relating to the settling of Maryland, writings of the Lords Baltimore, the complete publications of the Maryland Historical Society, and some pictures, letters, and manuscripts.⁴² It is easily the best collection of Maryland history on the Eastern Shore, and also one of the best in Maryland. It is available for the use of Maryland history students and writers.

In 1941 the Talbot Library was the only county in Maryland to maintain a Bookmobile. It covered 2,295 miles a year over four routes, visiting twenty-six schools and seventeen deposit stations for adults. This new service caused a great boost in circulation. A young people's section and a picture file were organized. Miss Florence McDaniel and Mrs. Virginia Darrow joined the staff in this year.⁴³

The Library started another new feature in 1942 when it helped to send books overseas to men in the armed services. A nine thousand increase was noted in circulation over the previous year. The exhibits held in the Library's main room were well received.⁴⁴ Two important collections were deposited in the fireproof vault in 1942. The late Right Reverend William C. McClelland, Bishop of the Easton Diocese of the Protestant Episcopal Church, placed the records of his Diocese in the vault. Mrs. C. Howard Lloyd deposited twenty-six colonial deeds of the Edward Lloyd holdings for safe-keeping. A Library branch was supervised by Mrs. Fred W. Bates at the Easton Memorial Hospital. Mr. J. Willard Davis of the Library Board served on the Maryland Library Survey Committee which recommended general legislation to start a state-wide Library system.⁴⁵

In 1943 three Library forums were held with Judge Samuel K. Dennis, Dr. Stringfellow Barr, and Elizabeth Janet Gray conducting one each. Following Dr. Barr's appearance, a seminar was formed to study the "Great Books."

Mrs. Martha Smith Marble was appointed to succeed Miss Fletcher.⁴⁶ Mr. William F. Austin, a member of the Library Board since 1933 who had served also as Vice President and President, was recommended as one of Maryland's two library trustees for an award by the American Library Association for distinguished service. The Dixon Collection was cataloged and the Bookmobile and story hour for children continued.⁴⁷

In 1946 the Library Board decided not to accept state aid as provided in a new Library Law, the result of the survey mentioned earlier. The reason given was that the library would have to submit to some control and supervision by a state agency. The seminar class was conducted for the third year and a Spanish class was started—these activities indicating the important place a library can play in a community's life. The Library had a new bookplate made, showing the new building.⁴⁸

The 1947 Report showed Miss Sarah F. Cockey had been appointed to replace Mrs. Marble. The Maryland Library Association held its annual spring meeting at Easton and over 150 persons attended the one-day session. The complete stock of the Library was listed at 27,777 with over 3,000 borrowers. The budget exceeded \$11,000. The Library Board passed a new rule that henceforth its members must be selected from all geographic areas of the county.⁴⁹ The Board in August of 1947 voted to accept State aid in the form of money for books, decided to allow its staff to affiliate with the State Teachers Retirement System, and to use the lending and reference services of the Maryland Library Extension Division. In 1948 circulation was 44% over the previous year while the number of registered users of the Library increased by 33%.⁵⁰ Circulation rose to 79,132 of which 14,424 was due to the Bookmobile. New assistants were appointed. At the close of 1948 the Talbot County Free Library possessed a total stock of 28,148 volumes.⁵¹ The first public library on the Eastern Shore in all respects, it has become a real community center, sponsoring many activities and serving as the focal cultural point.

The Woman's Club Library of Saint Michael's is about twenty years old. A free library, it is not incorporated. After many changes of location, it is now housed in attractive quarters of the recently constructed club-house of the Woman's Club. A disastrous fire in November of 1941 destroyed the building in which the library was originally housed. It had also doubled as Club headquarters. The library, a complete loss, was a collection that had been painstakingly added to over a period of years. Appeals were now made for donations of books. Many responded, among them Mr. Thomas Scott, Mr. F. O. Grattan and Mrs. Richard Tennant.

A Library Chairman, appointed by the President of the Woman's Club, governs the library with the help of a committee. Funds to finance the library are raised in several ways. At one time the Town Commissioners of Saint Michael's contributed a small monthly amount toward the support of the library, but this has been discontinued.

Since June, 1948, a paid librarian who has some professional training has served on Saturday afternoons when the Library is open. The new Library consists mainly of adult fiction, with some children's books and non-fiction such as biographies and reference works. The Talbot County Free Library at Easton sends books to supplement this collection. Special rentals are charged for new fiction. The library is panelled in pine and has a central fireplace. Appropriate furniture and a lovely seascape painted by a local artist add to its attractiveness.⁵²

9. WICOMICO COUNTY

The Wicomico County Free Public Library, located in Salisbury, is the only library in the county. It dates to 1869, two years after the county was formed, when a library and lyceum were established. The library was established on a

circulating basis, but after some years ceased operation.⁵³ Then, in 1916, Miss Iram Graham, Mrs. Samuel A. Graham, and Mrs. H. S. Wailes collected the scattered books of the old library and obtained others. Miss Victoria Wailes was named librarian. The library was moved from the Armory to a small building on Division Street where the Wicomico Hotel stands today. Mrs. S. King White succeeded Miss Wailes as Librarian.

The Wicomico County Library became a Free Public Library in 1925. In 1933 a building on Bush and High streets was purchased and remodelled under the Works Progress Administration, and became the site of the present library. It is a two-story brick building with a children's room and adequate reference rooms. In 1948 it became associated with the Maryland library system which offered the library permanency and financial stability. The County Commissioners voted the minimum tax for receiving state aid.

There are three full-time employees and one part time. In August of 1947 Miss Martha Morris succeeded Mrs. S. King White as librarian. Miss Morris was followed by Mrs. Susan Gibson Fox in March, 1948.⁵⁴

The library in the summer of 1948 had 7300 volumes, and a monthly circulation of 3000. It is open six hours each day. The fifteen-member board is incorporated and is self-perpetuating. The Junior Chamber of Commerce donated a Bookmobile, in September, 1948, and local merchants outfitted it.⁵⁵

Mrs. S. King White, wife of the editor of the *Salisbury Advertiser* and Wicomico State Senator, contributed greatly to the long and successful effort to establish a free library for Salisbury and Wicomico County. Her tireless and excellent work was recognized when she was chosen, in 1948, for the Salisbury Award, the tribute paid to a leading citizen for contribution to the town and county. Mrs. White has also been active in many other organizations.⁵⁶

10. WORCESTER COUNTY

The Pocomoke Public Library in Pocomoke City and the Snow Hill Public Library are Worcester's two libraries. The Snow Hill Library is connected with the school library and functions for citizens of the community on a limited hourly basis. Miss Margie Godfrey is the librarian.⁵⁷

The Pocomoke Public Library was founded and incorporated in 1930 by the Woman's Club of Pocomoke City. It is a subscription library located currently in the municipal building. The library board of twelve is elected and meets quarterly. County officials furnish seven hundred dollars and the library raises about eighty dollars from dues and library fines annually. Patrons of the library have presented many gifts: some classics, a set of encyclopaedias, and some new fiction. The Mary Stimson Fontaine Memorial Collection, of over two hundred and fifty volumes, was established in memory of Mrs. E. C. Fontaine. The heirs of Dr. Albert A. Parker gave his medical library to the Pocomoke Public Library. Bound volumes of periodicals have been added.

The library is staffed by a paid librarian who has no assistants. There are 4386 books in the library including reference books that are made available to the schools. The circulation is slightly over 5000. The library is now open eight hours a week and Mrs. William H. Schoolfield is the present librarian.⁵⁸

NOTES, CHAPTER XXXVIII

1. State-Wide Library Survey Committee of the Maryland State Planning Commission, *The Free Public Library in Maryland* (Government Printing Office, 1944), p. 14.

2. *The Free Public Library in Maryland*, p. 16.
3. *Ibid.*, pp. 14-15.
4. *Ibid.*, p. 17.
5. *Ibid.*, p. 17.
6. State Department of Maryland Division of Library Extension—*List of Public Libraries in Maryland*, October 15, 1948. Courtesy of Miss Helen W. Clark, Director of Division of Library Extension.
7. Deposited in the Talbot County Free Library, Easton, by the late Bishop William C. McClelland.
8. *The Free Public Library in Maryland*, p. 21.
9. *Ibid.*, p. 21.
10. *Ibid.*, p. 23.
11. *Ibid.*, p. 27.
12. *Ibid.*, p. 31.
13. *Ibid.*, p. 35.
14. *Ibid.*, pp. 36-38.
15. *Ibid.*, p. 39.
16. *Ibid.*, pp. 40-42.
17. *Ibid.*, p. 41.
18. *Ibid.*, pp. 42, 44, and Chart on p. 52.
19. *Ibid.*, p. 54.
20. From personal observations of the author.
21. Unless otherwise specified the material following was either obtained from a personal interview with the librarian or by a questionnaire. In this case it was a questionnaire, received December 14, 1948.
22. Letter of (Mrs. J. C.) Eleanor Noble Smith to Charles B. Clark, September 12, 1949, through the kindness of (Mrs. Donald) Louise Jefferson.
23. *Cecil Democrat* (Elkton, Md.), June 26, 1948; letters of Miss Ruth Miller, Librarian, to Charles B. Clark, October 14, 20, and 22, 1949.
24. Questionnaire received September 20, 1948.
25. Questionnaire received July 26, 1948 after a visit.
26. Questionnaire received August of 1948.
27. Questionnaire received March, 1949.
28. Interview with Miss Cornelia Davis, Librarian, June, 1949.
29. "Sketch of History of the Library," Miss Matilda B. Keating, *Queen Anne's Record-Observer* (Special Library Section), November 4, 1948, pp. 1-2.
30. *Ibid.*
31. *Ibid.*, pp. 1 and 3.
32. *Ibid.*, p. 2.
33. *Ibid.*, p. 4.
34. *Ibid.*, p. 1.
35. *Ibid.*, p. 4.
36. Questionnaire received September, 1948 after interview.
37. Questionnaire received October 27, 1948 after interview.
38. 1939 *Report Talbot County Free Library*.
39. *Ibid.*
40. 1940 *Report*.
41. *Ibid.*
42. 1941 *Report*.
43. *Ibid.*
44. 1942 *Report*.
45. *Ibid.*
46. 1943 *Report*.
47. 1944 *Report*.
48. 1946 *Report*.

49. *1947 Report*.
50. *1948 Report*.
51. *Ibid.*
52. Questionnaire received from Mrs. Malcolm Caplin, President of St. Michaels Woman's Club, November 1, 1948. More information supplied by Mrs. Raymond B. Clark, now an honorary member of that organization, formerly an officer.
53. *Salisbury Advertiser* and *The Wicomico Countian*. Thursday, March 18, 1948; p. 1.
54. *Ibid.*, p. 2.
55. Letter from Mrs. Susan Gibson Fox, Librarian, September 13, 1948.
56. *Salisbury Advertiser*, p. 1.
57. List of Public Libraries of Maryland; Division of Library Extension; October 15, 1948.
58. Questionnaire received September 3, 1948; letter September 25, 1948.

Chesapeake Bay Log Canoes

By M. V. Brewington*

Editor's Note: Log canoes have resumed competition following the war. In August, 1948, six log canoes faced the starting line at St. Michael's in competition for the Sidney W. Covington trophy race for boats built prior to 1917. A stiff breeze, however, prevented all but two from finishing. Three—The *Mayflower*, the ancient canoe sailed by Bill Grieb of Chestertown; The *Ginny Babe*, owned by W. R. Schuyler of Baltimore; and *Valiant Lady*, Captain Sam Shanahan, of St. Michael's—met with mishaps before the start of the race. Another, *Island Bird*, after a bad start, finally capsized about halfway on the course. The race was won by *Magic*, Captain Bob Wilson, of Tunis Mills, Maryland, as *Sandy*, Captain Boley Tyler, of Eastport, found it impossible to stick with the bigger boat.

The second race fared little better. It was the Oliver Duke Memorial Trophy race, being contested for the first time in honor of the noted canoe builder and racer who died in June, 1948, at Royal Oak, Maryland. *Oliver's Gift* from Solomon's, sailed by Captain Duke Adams, won the race as *Eagle*, sailed by Dr. Walter Lawson of Washington, only other contestant, failed to finish. The following day, *Oliver's Gift*, sailed by Captain Buck Richardson, took the Governor's Cup, and the John B. Harrison Trophy for boats built since 1917. He later was awarded the Commodore's Cup at Oxford. Captain Buck started racing in canoes around 1898, when he was jib tender on *Island Blossom*.

Island Bird, mentioned above, was purchased in September, 1948, by John C. North of Easton, and thereby returned to the family of William Sidney Covington (North's grandfather), who built it, back in the 1880s. It was purchased from Fred H. Touchton of Baltimore. (Baltimore *Sun*, Aug. 7, 8, 9, 25, 1948, Sept. 18, 1948.)

For generations the vessels built within the shores of Chesapeake Bay have been famous among the sea-faring people of Europe and America. In Maryland and Virginia, the two States which confine the Bay, the master shipwrights have long been experimental designers of strong, sturdy vessels of enormous sail area for use wherever speed has been the prime requirement. . . .

The majority of the craft used by the Marylanders seems to have been the type known as "Shallops," generically "Chaloupe," eventually contracted to

* Born in 1902 at Salisbury, Maryland; graduate of University of Pennsylvania; Trust Investment Officer for The Pennsylvania Company; served in the United States Navy during World War II. Member of the Society for Nautical Research (London), and of several historical societies. Editor, *The American Neptune*. Author of various publications and articles in naval and maritime history.

This material on log canoes is taken with permission of the author and publisher from Mr. Brewington's book, *Chesapeake Bay Log Canoes* (Newport News, Virginia, The Mariners' Museum, 1937), Part I.

"Sloop." Mention of them is frequent in the colonial records for they are found doing all the plantation work, hauling tobacco, freight, and the like, whereas in Virginia canoes performed these tasks. Indeed, although the canoe appears often in the records, up to about 1670 it was generally in the hands of Indians, not in those of the Maryland colonists. Nor did inter-colonial trade bring the upper and lower bay settlers into constant contact: both produced the same commodities, and both imported their manufactured goods from England.

This condition lasted until the early years of the eighteenth century when the Eastern Shore of Maryland began to stop the production of tobacco exclusively and go into the manufacture of linens and woolens. At the same time, "the loss of their small craft by the french" seemingly forced the Marylanders to pay closer attention to domestic trade. Coincidentally the canoe appears with greater frequency in the Maryland records. The delayed entry of the craft into Maryland seems to account for the lag in its development in that colony, the single log construction carrying down longer, and the use of sail coming considerably after its appearance on the Virginia canoes.¹

There were three principal centers of canoe building: one in Virginia, two in Maryland. In the first region canoes built near the Poquoson River have long been the most famous, and the custom of calling all Virginia-built craft "Poquoson canoes" will be followed hereafter.² In Maryland waters, the canoes of the lower Eastern Shore (Pocomoke Sound to the Honga River) vary considerably from those of the upper Chesapeake. These will be referred to as the "Pocomoke" and "Tilghman's canoes" respectively. The methods which will be described are by no means to be considered as ones unalterably followed by every canoe builder in each of the sections. All builders have their own technique with slight variations from the general practice. The descriptions are those of the methods most usually found and thought superior in the several localities. . . .

Maryland Canoes—On the upper Bay in both the Pocomoke and Tilghman sections the logs are handled in a manner quite different from the methods of the Poquoson section. The first step is to make a half model of the proposed canoe. Some of these are of the ordinary waterline type; others of a distinctively local type, each log being included in its full development as it will appear in the actual canoe. In the more poorly built canoes of these regions, the eye alone is used in attaining the form; this is known colloquially as the "winchum-squinchum" method, or "built by rack of eye."

When the model has been completed, the next step is to select the logs. Each of them is chosen for straightness, freedom from knots and defects, and, of course, for large diameter. The trees are cut, trimmed, and all of them hauled to the builder's yard. There the timbers are squared to the proper size; the keel log, the largest; the second and third, and the fourth and fifth matching each other, or if a log type model is used, cut to the size of the timbers indicated in the model.

After this preliminary work is finished, the center lines are chalked on the keel log, the length set off, the rake of stem and stern laid down, and cut with a saw. Station marks corresponding with those on the model are chalked on, and taking measurements from the model, the builder with adze and broadaxe begins to cut the keel log to shape. In some cases where another canoe is being copied, moulds are taken off with a strip of heavy lead bent around it at the proper points, and used as a template on the logs being worked.

With the keel log moulded, the second and third logs are blocked into the proper position, and the stations carefully marked in. These logs are shaped to

their portions of the model, first cutting in straight planes, then rounding off the body, using long battens to keep everything fair. Then the fourth and fifth logs are given identical treatment. Next, after the inner sides have been very roughly hollowed, the logs are assembled with bolts in the same way as it was practised in the Poquoson region. Another method of fastening the chunks together was occasionally used: key-pieces made of the toughest oak, shaped like a dovetail or butterfly plate were let into the hull both inside and out across the seams, then securely fastened with wooden pins, and worked down fair with the hull surface.

Down the Bay, it will be recalled, the builder at this stage of construction fills out the garboards and wings with short fillers, then adding tiers of logs to bring the hull to the desired sheer. Up the Bay, however, a different practise is customary. A simple scarph is cut into the ends of the wing logs, and the second and third logs are lined with the flat of the scarphs. Into these scarphs squared chunks are fitted, each extending to the stem or stern. But instead of meeting at the centerline as they do in Virginia, their ends are dovetailed together in a strong joint. All of these pieces are drift-bolted to the other logs.

The next step is to trim the top edges of the logs to a fair sheer line. Then the canoe is turned bottom up for a final surfacing. To make sure that no unfair spots have been left by the tools, battens are sprung along fore and aft and thwartwise, and all protuberances worked off with a plane.

Up the Bay in order to get the finished thickness of the hull even on both sides, holes are bored through the logs, and wooden dowels, called "gauge pins," are driven in flush with the outer skin. The pins are in length equal to the desired thickness of that particular portion of the bottom or side. The adzeman then cuts away the interior of the hull until the inner ends of the dowels appear. A final surfacing is given with a smoothing plane. The thickness of the bottom is from three inches in a small canoe to eight in a very large one; the sides, two to four inches; the gunwales, from two to three inches.

If large logs have been used, the hull is now complete. But if small logs are used, it is seldom possible to attain the necessary depth. In the Poquoson region naturally curved logs are used to elevate the sides. But along the upper Bay shores, the log construction ends with the top of the wing pieces, and the height of freeboard is gained by another means. Frames exactly like those of an ordinary boat are bolted to the inner skin of the wing logs. On them the canoe carpenter builds up the sides with sawed lumber until the designed sheer line is reached. These are called "rising planks." The practise of using the rising planks seems to have come in far earlier than one would expect. A canoe found adrift in 1764 off the mouth of the Patapsco River had "about 1000 8d nails in her."³ Making full allowances for thwarts and cleats, the only places that such a number of nails of that size could be used would have been in fastening on timbers and rising planks. Since no comment is made in describing the canoe's structure, it could not have been unusual and therefore had been in use for several years. Another canoe (1795) is described as having "remarkable stout timbers of West India wood, the bottom pine."⁴

In the Pocomoke section the rising planks are put on lap streak, or clench, fashion, outside the upper edge of the logs. The stem is completed with a post usually straight, but sometimes slightly concave. Stern posts are always straight and raking. The interior is given its washboards, centerboard, stern seat, and so on, the mast step only differing from the Poquoson region. It is a large, heavy hook, fitted with the throat on the bottom, the arms extending upwards along the sides

like frames, and the partner, or "mast seat," a heavy thwart, is fayed around the hook's arms.

In the Tilghman's Island section, the rising planks are painstakingly spiled from stem to stern and fitted carvel to the wing chunks, then edge bolted through with iron bolts. The whole is strengthened with knees and breast hooks. Again the posts are straight and raking. But to the stem is added a "long head," a series of graceful flowing curves, decorated trail boards, head rails, and billet head, or even a miniature figure-head.

The mast steps are considerably more complicated, due to the long heavy masts which must be stepped and unstepped frequently. Along the keel log is bolted a heavy U-shaped block of wood, the open end forward. In the opening is fitted a second piece, the "tumbling block," with mortice for the mast heel. The after end of this block is hinged to the arms of the U with an iron pin. The partner is a wide heavy thwart with a slot cut fore and aft directly over the tumbling block. The slot is deep enough to allow the mast to rake either forward or aft of the vertical point, the angle being controlled by wedges called "chock blocks" which work against the bottom of the partner slot, and against the metal hasp which closes the open end. This arrangement has been used since about 1870.⁵

By the middle of the 1700s canoes were sometimes rather garishly painted, one being described as having a "white bottom, black gunnel, painted red in the inside;" another, "paid over within and without, with a mixture of Tar and Red Paint;" others were treated with tar alone, or occasionally left "raw."⁶ In recent years the hulls have been painted red or green to a little over the load water line; above this, white with any decorations in red or yellow. The interiors may or may not have been painted according to the wishes or pocket-book of the owners.

The Maryland Oyster Law of 1872 required all canoes authorized to tong for oysters to paint their license number alongside the gunwale in "black figures, not less than three inches in length, and of proportionate width, in a white ground." This law is still in force, and accounts for the presence of numbers on canoes which have never been fitted for gasoline engines. . . .

On the Chesapeake the lateen was a well-known rig, for when the Virginians and Marylanders began to build their State Navies during the Revolution, that rig was given to many of the smaller craft. Until about the same time, sail . . . was apparently unknown on the upper Bay canoes. . . .

There is a tradition widespread throughout the entire Bay section that the canoe's sails were derived directly from the lateen. . . . Unfortunately no evidence of the second step—that of discarding the mast and placing the forward yard arm in the mast step—has come to light. But . . . [by] 1805, when the *Methodist* was built, the whole course had been run and the leg of mutton sail had been attained.⁷

Just as the hull of the Maryland canoe has a number of variations, so has the rig. . . . Once sail was added to the canoe, a keel became a necessary adjunct. The keel, though, was not of the usual shape: it was tapered from stem and stern towards the center, with the deepest point just forward of the mid-ship section. Or else, instead of the double taper, it was cut straight from the forefoot, becoming more shallow as it proceeded aft roughly in proportion to the drag of the hull itself.⁸ A rectangular plane of lateral resistance resulted. This method of getting "a hold on the water" continued until well toward the end of the eighteen hundreds, despite the fact that the true centerboard had been patented in America in 1811 and was in use on the Bay sloops soon afterwards.⁹ About 1850-60, the

device was tried on the Poquoson canoes, and found successful. From that region it spread Northward until by 1881 Henry Hall found it in general use all over the Bay on the larger canoes. Today a keel is a great rarity.¹⁰

The Racing Canoes—. . . By 1840 there were "organized" races being held at St. Michael's, particularly on the Fourth of July, with sometimes as many as thirty starters. Unfortunately little is known of these early racing events: a silver cup, the "Douglas Cup," so called for the canoe which won it, was the first formal prize; a system of handicapping (six seconds per foot per mile of course) was instituted.¹¹ In some of these races the start was made in an unusual way. The contestants hauled the sterns of their canoes upon the beach; sail was taken in and furled, and the crews went ashore. On a signal, all hands rushed for their canoes, shoved off, fixed their rudders, made sail, and set out. The wild *mêlée* made by such a start can be readily imagined: upset canoes, tangled gear, and high language. There was no beating the gun, and ample excitement was afforded the spectators as well as the contestants.¹² The rivalry caused by these races was so great that soon canoes especially designed for racing were built. . . .

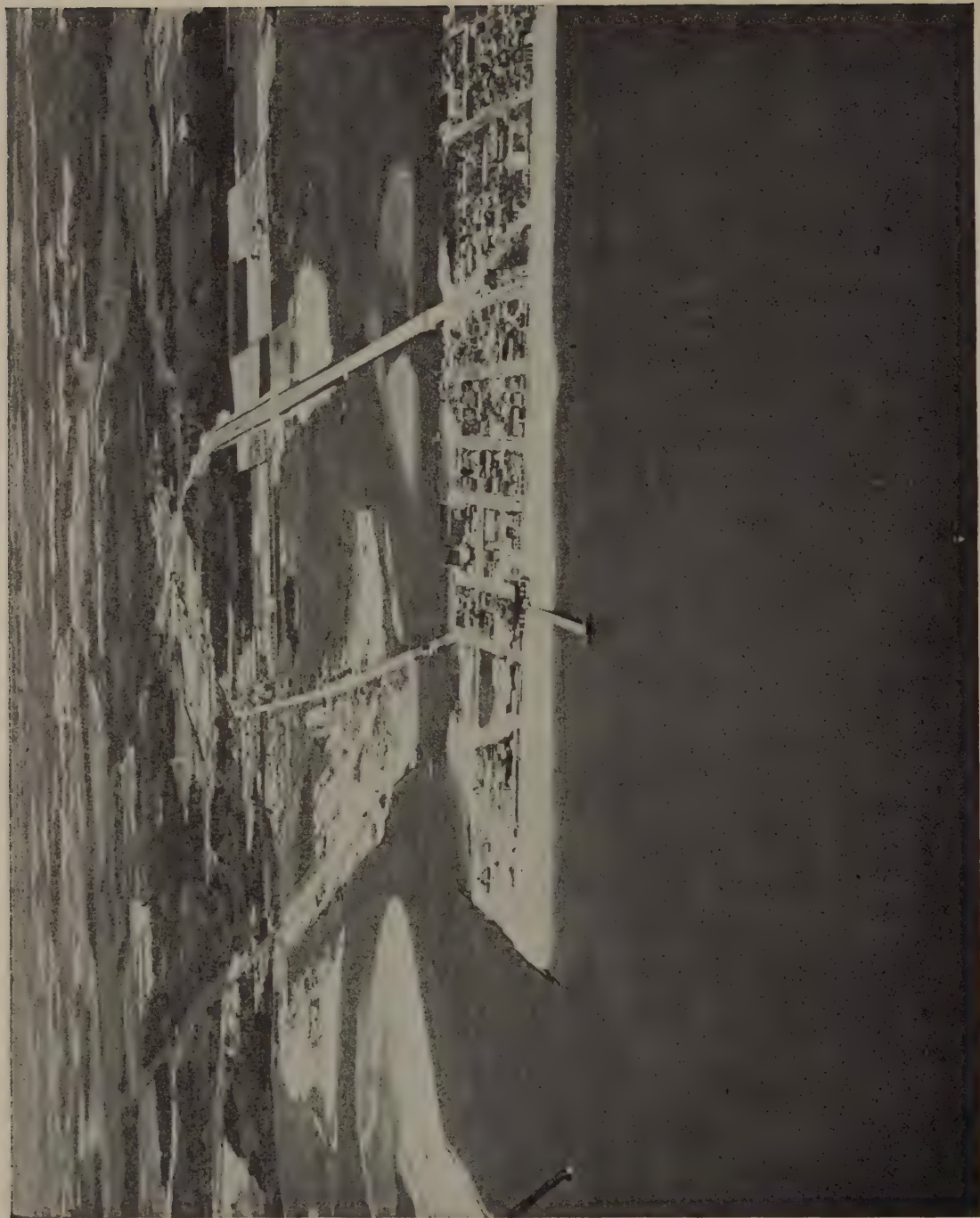
With the coming of the War Between the States when the sympathies of the Maryland towns were divided even within families, the meets were discontinued.¹³ However, canoes loaded with Southern adherents raced Yankee guard boats in attempts to reach the Confederate lines. The canoes evidently won, for the races continued as long as Southern arms held any part of Tidewater Virginia. . . .¹⁴

Up to the organization of the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Club in 1885 canoe racing continued in a more or less haphazard way with pick up races being held whenever a sufficient number of starters could be collected. . . . During this period, many famous canoes were built: the *Dashaway*, 1877, by Robert Lambdin; the *Mary Rider*, 1877, by James Lowry; the *Magic* and *Margaret P. Hall*, by Charles Tarr; the *Island Belle*, *Island Bride*, *Island Blossom*, by W. S. Covington; *Belle M. Crane*, by Greenbury Coffin, etc.¹⁵

For a number of years racing continued under the leadership of this club, but by 1903 interest in the log canoes had waned to such an extent the races were discontinued. . . . [In 1921] two Baltimore newspapers organized a race meet for the commercial sailing craft of the Bay. The class for canoes attracted only five entries. The next year but three arrived to start, and the following season the canoe event was dropped altogether. However, 1924 saw the canoe again racing under the auspices of the newly formed Miles River Yacht Club. In 1933 the Chesapeake Bay Log Canoe Association was organized to foster and develop the sport. . . .¹⁶

Now [1937] some dozen old canoes (one almost sixty years old and still a winner) and three built since 1930 take part in the various annual races which are held under the auspices of the chief Eastern Shore yacht clubs. The principal event of the season is the race for the "Governor's Cup," first donated in 1927 by the Governor of Maryland, to be contested for by sharp sterned craft only. Other trophies for canoes are the "Covington Prize" for canoes built prior to 1917, offered in memory of the great canoe builder Captain Sid Covington; and the "John B. Harrison Trophy" for canoes built since 1917 offered in honor of the best known of the present day canoe builders. . . .

With all the rejuvenation racing has given the canoe, its future seems none too bright. As a work boat, the sailing canoe has already disappeared. In 1880 the United States Census investigators found 6,300 canoes in use on the Chesapeake with the builders turning out about 175 new craft annually.¹⁷ One builder, Captain



(Photos by Perry Pix, Salisbury)

Aerial View of Ocean City Showing Inlet Cut by Storm in 1933

Robert Lambdin of St. Michael's, Maryland, is reputed to have built a total of 68 canoes between 1865 and 1894.¹⁸ During the same period probably at least two hundred men were first-class canoe wrights.

Co-incidental, however, with the development of the inexpensive gasoline engine which eliminated the oyster tonger's dependence on wind, the use of sail began to decline rapidly. From 1903 to 1933 not a single sailing canoe is reported to have been built in the Tilghman's Island region, and only a few in the Pocomoke and the Poquoson regions. All the old canoes strong enough to stand vibration were converted: sails were discarded and centerboards ripped out; shaft holes were bored and engines bolted in place. Where once the waters of the Bay were alive with hundreds of trim canoes, all busy sailing to and from their work, one now finds only oily, grimy motor boats on the oyster beds.

As for the racing canoes, only four have been built in the last decade.¹⁹ All the other additions to the fleet have been old work canoes, resurrected, rebuilt, and refitted for sail. When time has destroyed this source of supply, even the sport of racing seems doomed. Probably less than ten men are now [1937] living who are capable of turning out a successful canoe. They whose knowing eyes and skilled hands brought the canoe to the height of its perfection are fast going. With them passes the ancient art of building the Chesapeake Bay Canoe.

Chesapeake Bay Bugeyes—In addition to his excellent work on Chesapeake Bay Log Canoes, M. V. Brewington has also written a book on Chesapeake Bay Bugeyes.²⁰ This characteristic craft is well-known to Chesapeake Bay people. It has two raking masts carrying triangular sails, and a clipper bow, and has been used to carry lumber, watermelons, grain or oysters.

Brewington calls the bugeye the "ultimate development of the American aboriginal dugout canoe" which came into being as a result of the peculiar needs of the oyster fishing of the Chesapeake Bay. When the oyster dredge, a device imported from New England, came into use, replacing tonging from small canoes, the bugeye was developed as the most suitable vessel to use. Existing types of vessels such as schooners and pungys were not suitable. Consequently, there developed from the log canoes small vessels known as "brogans" and from them, the log-hulled bugeyes, the first of which made their appearance in the Bay between 1865 and 1870.

The bugeye is essentially a hybrid. Brewington says that the principal elements came from the canoe: "the basic design, the dugout log hull, and the sail plan: all admirably developed for economy, durability, and ease of handling with a minimum of trained hands. From the pungy came the combination knightheads and hawsepieces, the sweeping sheer, the low freeboard, and the log rail which allowed the oyster dredge to be easily and quickly hoisted on deck. From the Bay schooner came the shoal draft, the broad beam, the unobstructed deck layout, and the graceful longhead with its decorated trail-boards." The scarcity of logs about 1800 necessitated construction by the conventional frame and plank methods. Motorboats, of course, are responsible for the outgoing of the bugeyes.

Although there are several theories concerning the origin of the name bugeye, Brewington believes it is a corruption of the Scotch word "buckler," or perhaps of a word of some African dialect. Although a few bugeyes were built in Virginia, most of them were built in Maryland, and the best of these on the Eastern Shore.²¹

NOTES, CHAPTER XXXIX

1. Margaret Shove Morriss, *Colonial Trade in Maryland, 1689-1715* (Baltimore, The Johns Hopkins Press, 1914), pp. 109-113; Clarence Gould, *Money and Transportation in Maryland, 1720-1765* (Baltimore, The Johns Hopkins Press, 1915); William Edmundson, *A Journal of the Life of W. E.* (Dublin, 1715), p. 93.
2. The Poquoson River is variously called "Coastin River," "Per Coastin River," and "McCoastin River."
3. *Maryland Gazette*, May 24, 1764.
4. *Federal Intelligencer*, Nov. 20, 1795.
5. Personal testimonies of George Leech, John Bradford, J. S. Shores, John B. Harrison—Canoe builders—and John G. Earle, an "Investigator."
6. *Maryland Gazette*, May 24, 1764; Oct. 18, 1764. *Maryland Journal*, Sept. 6, 1775.
7. The *Methodist* was by far the most famous canoe ever produced in the Chesapeake Bay Country. Her owner was the Reverend Joshua Thomas, a preacher whose charges were the inhabitants of Tangier, Smith, and Deal's islands. The canoe carried the "Parson of the Islands" from one church to another from 1805 until his death. The canoe itself to quote one who "makes many trips in this boat," the Reverend Mr. Thomas's grandson, was "built out of one tree which grew near Curtis Chapel on the land of a Mr. Broughton and was so large it was regarded as a curiosity by the neighborhood. Mr. Hance Croswell bought the tree for ten dollars and when it was felled it shook the ground for miles around. Two canoes were hewn from its trunk. The *Methodist* was the larger, and hewn in one piece, twenty-eight feet long, five feet wide, and about four feet deep." She was still afloat as late as 1907 when she was borrowed to be exhibited at the Jamestown Exposition. She never arrived there, and all trace of her has been entirely lost. The *Methodist's* original spars and sails are said to be still in the hands of Joshua Thomas's descendants.
8. Personal testimony of John Branford.
9. Arthur H. Clark, *The History of Yachting, 1600-1815* (New York, Putnam's, 1904), p. 148.
10. Henry Hall, *Report of the Shipbuilding Industry of The United States* (Washington, 10th U. S. Census, VIII, Government Printer, 1884), p. 35.
11. Easton (Md.) *Star-Democrat*, June 26, 1936. Article on Sailing Canoe Racing.
12. Testimony of John G. Earle.
13. *Baltimore Sun*, June 9, 1935.
14. Testimony of George Leech.
15. *Baltimore Sun*, June 9, 1935.
16. *Easton Star-Democrat*, June 26, 1936.
17. Henry Hall, *Report on the Shipbuilding Industry of The United States*, pp. 34-35; Fish Commission, United States, *Bulletins and Reports* (Washington, Government Printer, 1878-1935), XII.
18. *Baltimore Sun*, June 9, 1935.
19. Testimony of John D. Williams.
20. M. V. Brewington, *Chesapeake Bay Bugeyes* (Museum Publication No. 8, Newport News, Virginia, Mariners' Museum, 1941).
21. Brewington's book is reviewed for the *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XXXVII, No. 2 (June, 1942), pp. 214-216, by Judge Emory H. Niles.

CHAPTER XL

Sports and Related Activities

*By Ed Nichols**

I. FAMED BASEBALL PLAYERS FROM THE EASTERN SHORE

The Eastern Shore of Maryland isn't much for size, but it is famous for its picturesque Cheseapeake, the size of its oysters, flavor of its sweet potatoes, sweetness of its cantaloupes, and its major league baseball players.

There's something about the peninsula's rich loam and salty breezes that sweep in from the Chesapeake which put keen sight in a man's batting eye, and muscle in the throwing arm.

Just take a gander at the list of major league contributions from the Eastern Shore—Jimmy Foxx, Frank Baker, Bill Nicholson, Vic Keen, Jake Flowers, Walter Betts, Dick Porter, Buck Herzog, and Homer Smoot.

Foxx came the closest to breaking Babe Ruth's record of 60 homers, hammering out 58 during the 1932 American League campaign. Jimmy developed those hefty thighs on his father's farm outside of Sudlersville. At 16, the youngster could toss around 200-pound sacks of grain as though they were bags of pop corn. Before his 17th birthday, he had caught 76 games for the Easton (Maryland), Eastern Shore League club, and hit .296. Before his 18th birthday, he had played 10 games with the Philadelphia A's and hit .667, six hits in nine official trips to the batting dish.

From that point on, Foxx punished American League pitching with much gusto, and wound up his career with 534 homers, second only to the immortal Babe Ruth's record total of 714.

Frank Baker of Trappe, Maryland, the game's first home run slugger, is responsible for starting Foxx on his big league tour. The story dates back to 1923 when Baker was managing the Easton (Maryland), Eastern Shore League club. He had heard many reports about a farm boy who could wallop the ball for a mile and throw like a bullet. He signed Jimmy to his first professional contract in a field where he had been trailing a mule and cultivator.

Baker was also a farm product of fertile Talbot County. They gave him the name of "Home Run" Baker, after he led the American League in homers in 1911, '12, '13, and '14 with nine, ten, twelve and eight homers, respectively.

* Nichols is a native of East New Market in Dorchester County. Moving to Philadelphia at an early age, he was educated in Pennsylvania and Delaware after which he returned to the Eastern Shore of Maryland. He had a fling in professional baseball and was a standout in semi-pro ranks. Prior to World War II he was sports editor of the *Queen Anne's Record Observer* of Centreville. He served four years in the Army Air Forces, most of it in combat in Europe and Africa, and was awarded the Bronze Star and the Legion of Merit. Since 1945 he has been sports editor of the *Salisbury (Md.) Times* and has gained a fine reputation in this capacity. He prepared the sections of this chapter on "Famed Baseball Players From the Eastern Shore," "J. Thomas Kibler, Sports Leader," and "Harness Racing."

During Foxx's fruitful years, the four-year total, 39, would have been a disappointing one-season output.

However, the ball that Baker jolted out of the parks wasn't of the lively variety which was in play when Foxx hung up high total homers.

Baker could wallop the ball, as the New York Giant's ace hurlers found out to their sorrow during the Giant-A's World's Series of 1911.

After New York took the opening game of that Series, Baker won the second game for the A's, when, with Eddie Plank opposing Rube Marquard, he poled a home run over the right field wall at Shibe Park with Eddie Collins on base in the sixth inning. Philadelphia won the game, 3 to 1.

Christy Mathewson criticized Marquard in a newspaper article for pitching to Baker's batting strength, saying that at a club house meeting Manager John McGraw had gone over the A's hitters and told him just how to pitch to them.

However, the next day in the Polo Grounds, Mathewson had a 1 to 0 lead on Jack Coombs, with one out in the ninth when boom—Baker again tied the game with a homer into the right field stands. The A's went on to win the game in the 11th inning, 3 to 2. Then Marquard's ghost writer had a splendid opportunity to rub it in on Mathewson. To show his first two homers were no flukes, Baker poked Marquard for a third World Series homer in the opener of the 1913 Series.

In recent years, Bill Nicholson of Chestertown, Maryland, has tried to uphold the slugging reputation of the Eastern Shore while playing with the Chicago Cubs and the Phillies. Bill is a graduate of Washington College where he gained a B. S. degree that could stand for Bachelor of Slug.

Big Nick, as he's called by friends, enjoyed magnificent seasons in 1943 and 1944. He was the boy who brought a lot of joy to Wrigley Field in the early war years. Nick led both leagues in runs batted in and he was the National League home run leader in 1943, and the major league home run leader, 1944.

Bill might have worn an A's uniform like Baker, and Foxx if Connie Mack hadn't guessed wrong on him during 1936. Mr. Mack let Nicholson get away from him that year. Bill, fresh off the campus at Washington College, failed to get a hit in 11 games in the A's batting lineup.

Although his batting average has nose-dived somewhat in recent years, the big muscle man from Chestertown is still considered a threat with the bat, which according to a popular legend, he "squeezes until sawdust oozes out."

Bill has done the brunt of his hitting during slump ridden years with men on the base paths. For instance, during 1947 he batted at a .248 pace, but chased across 76 runs to top the RBI mark of Harry Walker, Phillies' outfielder, who won the batting title of the National League with a .368 percentage.

A baseball name that will never die on the Eastern Shore is that of D'Arcy (Jake) Flowers, a Cambridge, Maryland, boy, and former Washington College athlete. He didn't gain nation-wide fame until his active major-minor league career as a player was completed.

Jake was chosen the outstanding minor league manager of 1937, an achievement which must be rated with the best in baseball. His Salisbury (Maryland), Indians Eastern Shore League club had a 21-5 win and loss record when it was forced to forfeit all of its victories on charges of using an ineligible player. Thus, the team had a record of no wins and 26 losses, but Flowers and his players worked together so well that the Indians moved from the cellar to first place and won the pennant by three and a half games. The team also went on to win the playoffs from the Centreville Maryland Colts, three games to two.

Flowers, a fancy fielding shortstop during his active days, got his professional baseball start with his home town team, the Cambridge Cannons, which had a franchise in the original Eastern Shore League. The St. Louis Cardinals bought him in 1923 for \$500, and Jake was farmed out to the Fort Smith, Arkansas, club of the Western Association. He was with that team until the last month of the 1924 season, going to the Oakland Pacific Coast League club.

Jake moved up to the St. Louis Cardinals in 1926. Rogers Hornsby was the team manager and brought the first National League pennant to St. Louis that year. The following year Jake was traded to Brooklyn for Bob McGraw, a pitcher, and he remained with the Dodgers until June of 1931 when repurchased by the Cardinals. As in 1926, the Red Birds won the pennant. He stayed with St. Louis until 1933 when he returned again to Brooklyn. Flowers went to Cincinnati in 1934, and had the misfortune of sustaining a broken arm after being hit with a pitched ball by Paul (Daffy) Dean. This injury marked the end of Jake's major league career.

Flowers turned to the managerial bench, and piloted the Salisbury Indians to national fame in 1937. He went to the Pittsburgh Pirates as coach in 1940, and remained with the Pirates for six seasons until his former St. Louis Cardinal teammate, Manager Billy Southworth, signed him as coach of the Boston Braves.

Jake was promoted in the fast moving Boston organization during 1947 when named vice president and general manager of the Milwaukee Brewers American Association League farm club.

Ridgely, Maryland, claims Charley (Buck) Herzog as its home town boy. He played for the New York Giants against Frank Baker in the A's-Giants World's Series of 1911 and 1913. Though not a slugger, Herzog was a scientific place hitter, and was fast on the bases, stealing 48 bags for the Giants in 1911, and 46 for the Cincinnati Reds three years later. Herzog was an infielder.

An article about Eastern Shore baseball wouldn't be complete without mentioning Richard Twilley Porter of Allen, Maryland. Dick compiled a life-time .322 major league batting average which included a seven year tour with the Cleveland Indians starting in 1929 and ending with the Boston Red Sox, 1935.

"Twitchey Twilley," they called him because of the peculiar manner in which he twirled a bat while stepping into a pitch. Dick is still considered one of the most colorful personalities of the game. He could be termed a "good humor" man, known to keep a steady flow of chatter off and on the ball field.

Some of his pet baseball phraseology includes such expressions as "clinker" (error) "collisions" (college players) "fishing trip" (taking a swing at a bad pitch) "pour on the pine" (to hit a ball solidly) "Uncle Charley's got him," (he can't hit curve balls), "unbutton your shirt" (take a good swing).

Dick stepped off the campus at St. John's College, Annapolis, directly to the Baltimore Orioles in 1921. He was a member of Jack Dunn's famous Oriole teams which won seven consecutive International League pennants. Practically every member of the club was later sold to major league teams for sums ranging from \$50,000 to \$100,000. The Philadelphia A's got the bulk of the squad which helped Connie Mack to win three American League pennants. They were Lefty Bob Grove, Eddie Rommel, George Earnshaw, Joe Boley and Max Bishop.

Porter went up to faster company during the same period after leading the International League parade during 1927 with a lofty .376 swatting mark. The Cleveland Indians purchased Porter for \$40,000.

Major league hurling proved no handicap to "Mr. Twitch" and he continued to bat over the .300 bracket. He stayed with the Indians until midseason of 1934 when traded to the Boston Red Sox.

Vic Keen of Snow Hill, Maryland, a lanky curve ball pitcher with a buggy whip arm, was one of the standout National League pitchers 20 years ago.

His razor sharp curves started to attract the attention of major league scouts while a student at the University of Maryland. "Vic" was one of the standout collegiate hurlers in the East, 1918-21, winning 42 games as against but two setbacks.

After weighing offers from the Philadelphia A's, Phillies, and Washington Senators, Keen finally signed with the Chicago Cubs, 1921. After a brief fling with the Wichita Falls Texas League team he returned to Chicago in one year. Keen won 60 games for Manager Bill Killifer's Cubs over a four year stretch before being sold to the St. Louis Cardinals, 1926.

Many Eastern Shore baseball fans have often asked where and when Walter Betts got the label of "Huck" appended to his name.

It all happened back in 1920 in a railroad day coach when the Phillies were traveling southward for spring training. A shy-looking, blonde haired boy was sitting alone, not taking part in the lively chatter of the other players.

Dave Bancroft, talkative shortstop, who always had a knack of dishing out appropriate nicknames to his teammates, took one squint at the rookie, and said "Why look who's here, a Huckleberry Finn."

The name stuck ever since, though trimmed to "Huck" without the "berries." Betts signed a contract with the Phillies after proving the sensation of the peninsula sandlots.

He is well remembered by Dover, Delaware, fans when he formed an interchangeable battery at Wesley Junior College with Jesse (Broadway) Jones, also of Millsboro, Delaware. It was nothing to see Betts pitch the first game of a double header, then don the shin guards and mask in the nightcap to receive the slants of Jones, who also later received a brief tryout with the Phillies.

The Phils used "Huck" mostly in relief rôles during the six year stay with the National League club. After a six year minor league tour in the Pacific Coast, Texas and American Association league, he returned to the majors during 1932 with the Boston Braves. The name of Betts ranked high in the National League pitching averages for three years. Records showed 13 wins as against 11 losses for 1932; 17-10 for 1933 and 12-9 for 1934.

Returning to native Millsboro in 1935, "Huck" purchased a movie house which he called the "Ball Theatre." Sitting atop his show place is the replica of a baseball in bright lights. "I like to gaze up at the thing once in a while," he declared. "It brings back fond memories."

2. J. THOMAS KIBLER—SPORTS LEADER

If the Eastern Shore ever had an inspirational sports leader it is Colonel J. Thomas Kibler of Chestertown.

He is simply "Coach" to hundreds of college athletes who attended Washington College for more than a quarter of a century, where Colonel Kibler served 36 years as athletic director, a post he resigned in June, 1947.

The veteran athletic tutor, official and player was also a pillar of Eastern Shore League Class "D" baseball for many years after its re-organization in 1937. He stepped down as league president during the winter of 1948.

He often said adverse criticism and opposition were two of the penalties of leadership, and he accepted them as such. If anyone disagreeing with his policies

will take an honest inventory, it is the popular belief that they, too, will agree his stands were for the best interests of the sport involved.

Colonel Kibler imposed one of the most severe penalties on an Eastern Shore League club that was ever known in professional baseball during the '37 season. He lifted 21 games from the win column of the Salisbury Indians, who skidded from first to last place for the use of an ineligible player, first baseman Bob Brady.

Clark Griffith, president of the Washington Senators, sponsors of the Salisbury franchise, swung vicious verbal blasts on the "old scholar," with the accusation, "you're doing nothing more than ruining the league." The reply was short and to the point. "Mr. Griffith, if we can't play baseball according to the rules of the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues, let's break up the league." No further comment was made. The decision stuck, and had tongues wagging throughout the baseball world.

Salisbury's bench pilot was a Kibler-Washington College product, Jake Flowers, who astounded professional diamond ranks by later spurring the Indians to a pennant and the post-season playoff championship.

Flowers, now general manager and president of the Milwaukee Brewers, often draws a hearty laugh when thinking of that hectic season. "I was a little upset at first when the Coach deprived my club of 21 games. Sure, I objected, and protested most vigorously, but I knew the 'old timer' meant just what he said."

Harry S. Russell of Chestertown succeeded Colonel Kibler in 1938, and held the position four years until the league suspended operations for the duration of the war. When the league was revived during the winter of 1945, the name of Kibler again appeared at the head of the circuit.

He refused the post for re-election during the winter league meeting of '46, but was drafted to serve again in 1947.

The Colonel, veteran of two world wars, decorated twice during the first conflict for bravery, has a background that is too well known for recounting in detail.

A smallish man of dynamic energy, his name rose from almost obscurity during the turn of the century to become one of the outstanding college coaches and baseball authorities in the country.

Now 63, the veteran tutor cherishes his memories at Washington College where he points with pride to his major league contributions. Heading the group is Bill Nicholson, now playing for the Phillies, and the aforementioned Jake Flowers, who spent a varied National League career with the St. Louis Cardinals, Brooklyn Dodgers, and Cincinnati Reds. Others advancing to the majors for shorter terms were Curt Gordy, one time property of the Washington Senators; Johnny Schelberg, who had a brief fling with the St. Louis Cardinals, and Jack Enright, signed by the New York Yankees during the early '20s.

Veteran lower Eastern Shore baseball fans recall the "old war horse" in his blooming youth while playing with the Cambridge team of 1909. He graduated from Temple University the previous year where he excelled in baseball, basketball and gymnastics. H. C. (Curly) Byrd, now president of the University of Maryland, was a teammate at Cambridge. The late Hanson Horsesey, Eastern Shore League umpire in chief during recent years, was pitching for a rival Seaford (Delaware) club.

The young fire-brand made his debut in the coaching field during 1909 at Lehigh University and later accepted a similar position at Ohio State University where one of his athletes was George Trautman, now minor league czar.

The Colonel meanwhile played professional ball, and was definitely tagged as big league timber until he sustained a broken leg. He never seemed to regain his normal stride following the mishap, and the Chicago White Sox sold him to the San Francisco Pacific Coast League team. He later saw service in the Texas and International leagues.

There never was an individual connected with the Eastern Shore League who had a greater respect for the game.

The old GI, who will long be remembered for his many stirring battles in the bloody game of war as well as the athletic field, and behind the administrative desk, softened hearts when he resigned as president of the Sho' league. He said, "I'll always be eternally grateful for baseball. Yes, it is true that my love for the game amounts to religion. I know of nothing outside of religion and education that has more salutary effect on the national character than the national pastime."

Perhaps we shall never see the like of him again.

3. HARNESS RACING

Harness racing is now a solid stone in Eastern Shore sports. Half-mile tracks with pari-mutual betting at Harrington, Delaware, and Ocean Downs, Maryland, attracted upwards of 500,000 patrons for three separate 20-night meetings.

The ancient Harrington oval, operating its 29th year, the fourth with pari-mutual betting, is sponsored by the Kent and Sussex Racing Association. The president of this group is J. O. Williams of Federalsburg, Maryland. An approximate million and a quarter dollars was wagered on each of the 20-night meetings.

Pacing and trotting racing is an outgrowth in the friendly little Delaware town from the Kent and Sussex agricultural fair held each July in Harrington. This annual event draws in the neighborhood of 100,000 over a span of five days and six nights of activity. The program includes one of the largest livestock exhibits on the eastern sea board.

More than \$100,000 was poured into the track last season for improvements of the racing strip which included a three-quarter mile training track, track kitchen, steel hub rails, and construction of additional stables.

The mild weather and congenial atmosphere of the people makes the antiquated plant ideal for winter training grounds for some of the country's outstanding horses. An average of 300 horses are quartered at Harrington each fall for a three-month siege of conditioning.

Ocean Downs ranked third among Maryland's three tracks' first year totals. The \$2,246,070 total wagering has been topped by only one other track in the country—Chicago's Sportsman's Park, a mile track operating but a few miles from Chicago. Over 200,000 fans attended the 20-night meeting of the Worcester County track. This attendance included a "melting pot" of business men, watermen, vacationers, farmers and cannery workers. The nightly betting handle averaged \$112,330.

The racing strip, a horseman's dream, did not turn out to be as fast as was predicted although a few of the hard going record smashers that performed at Laurel and Rosecroft took a crack at it. Nora Abbe and Emalou Hanover

shared the mile pacing mark of 2:06-3/5 and American Lou and Follow Boy each stepped off a 2:07-2/5 mile on the trot. After a year of conditioning, horsemen expect Ocean Downs to come up with one of the fastest strips in the nation.

"Beauty Spot By the Sea" describes the new track which cost an estimated \$650,000. It is located 28 miles east of Salisbury, and about midway between Ocean City and Berlin. Many horsemen consider it "second to none in the East."

The elaborate setup includes a 4,000 seat grandstand, and a large ramp which will accommodate another 10,000. Also included are 480 stables, and other structures including administration buildings, restaurant, paddock, club house, and employees' recreational center.

The plan for bringing Ocean Downs into being had its inception back in the spring of 1947 when a group of Berlin business men—trotting fans, all of them—went into a huddle and agreed the lower Eastern Shore might support such an establishment. Among the prime movers were O. Sheldon Chandler, head of the Berlin Milling Company; Frederick S. Hastings, Berlin lumberman; Earl E. Conley, Ocean City hotel operator; Theodore E. Fletcher of Preston; Edgar T. Bennett of the Red Star Motor Coach Company, Salisbury, and Clarence W. Miles, member of a Baltimore law-firm.

This group and several of their business associates set up the initial kitty of \$15,000 to get the ball rolling. One of the first moves was to purchase a site. It's the 640-acre farm owned by Raymond Bounds which was acquired at the reported cost of \$14,000. Then arrangements were made to dispose of \$700,000 worth of securities to the public to underwrite the project, most of the stock having gone to investors in the states of Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania and New York.

4. SPORTS IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

Frederic Emory* wrote in the *Baltimore Sun* in May, 1882, that sports had changed considerably since ante-bellum days. At the time he wrote it was considered a "fine thing to be able to smash so many glass balls, or so many tame, fluttering pigeons a minute, or to exhibit a certain proficiency at polo, lacrosse, or some other machine-like sport. Most of them possess a certain interest, of course, but there is too much of the prize-ring and gymnasium in the outdoor amusements of the present generation." On the other hand, he wrote, it was quite the other way with the Maryland gentleman of the old school. "He was generally able to give or to ward off a knock-down blow, but beyond that he possessed none of the accomplishments of the modern athlete. He knew how to row, but that was in the natural order of things. Communication between the plantations was often shortest by water, and boating parties, especially of a moonlight night, were one of the most popular forms of amusement. But of gymnastic feats, of running and walking matches, of leaping, jumping, &c., as practised by the athletic young swells of our day, he knew comparatively nothing, except as he had indulged in them as a romping boy at school. On the other hand, he

* Native of Queen Anne's County, author of *Queen Anne's County, Maryland: Its Early History and Development* (Baltimore, 1950). See Chapter I on Queen Anne's County.

was an expert and daring horseman, a fine shot with the revolver or the bird-gun, a practised and graceful dancer, and thoroughly versed in most games of chance. Fox-hunting was a passion with the great majority."



*Visiting Fleet of the Baltimore Yacht Club at
Roberts Industries, Salisbury*

Fox-Hunting: "There was one old gentleman . . . who was a devout member of the church and one of the most benevolent souls that ever lived, who dearly loved a fox-hunt, a horse race and a chicken fight. He had been known to neglect important business and ride many miles in order to be present at an exhibition of one of these three forms of amusement. When his straight-laced neighbors undertook to criticize him he would shrug his shoulders and reply:

"Well, it may be wicked and I may be very wrong, but I enjoy it, Sir, and d—n me if it ever did me any harm!"

"The same old gentleman—a hale old fellow, six feet tall and of large muscular frame—was an enthusiastic duck-shooter. He would remain at a famous 'point,' jutting far out into the river from his estate, from sunrise to sunset in the coldest weather, and being a very accurate shot, seldom failed to return home without a huge bag of redheads or canvas-backs. A gentleman who accompanied him on one of these expeditions asserted that so enthusiastic was his love of the sport that one bitterly cold day, having fallen into the river, which was frozen over, he took off his clothes and hung them on a bush and walked rapidly up and down the shore until the keen wind had dried them! Few physiques could withstand such a test without serious injury, but apparently he suffered no material damage.

"It was the same individual whom a disaster once befell which he could not quite get over. His favorite fox hunter was a sorrel mare—a large, rawboned animal—called Maria. He had the greatest confidence in Maria's sureness of

foot and staying powers. He often bragged of her as the finest hunter in the State. 'Thunder, Sir!' he would exclaim; 'there is nothing to beat Maria! She never stumbled in her life, Sir! Never! And jump! Why she no more hesitates at a five-barred gate than she does at a single rail!'

"Unfortunately the old gentleman's confidence was misplaced. One day as Maria was leading the chase she fell in the middle of a pool and precipitated her rider into the water. Crimson with wrath the old gentleman struggled to dry land, and turning upon the mare, who, humbled and abashed, was gazing at him with eyes beseeching pardon, he yelled out: 'You *liked* to have done it, you devil!' Even in that awful hour he would not bring himself to believe that his trusty mare had actually thrown him.

"Fox-hunting was rough-and-tumble sport across country, and as foxes were plentiful the sportsmen were nearly always successful in securing a brush. Some of the young farmers impoverished themselves through love of the sport. One gentleman, I remember, literally hunted away a fine estate; that is, he ruined himself by devoting near all his time and money to fox-hunting and the hard drinking which too often accompanied it. Owing to his neglect, his property became involved, and he was finally beggared."

Partridge Shooting: "Partridge or quail shooting, however, was the principal sport of the neighborhood, and one which possessed a peculiar fascination. When the dog comes to a 'dead point!' and you know that there is a covey of birds lurking in the long brown grass at your feet, the sensation is one of subdued but intense excitement. You advance, with gun cocked, and the faithful dog creeps forward, quivering in every limb. Suddenly, 'whirr!' and the birds rise before you with that peculiar noise which always startles a novice, and 'bang! 'bang!' goes your gun, and if you are a good shot two birds, or perhaps more fall fluttering to the ground a few yards away. Sometimes you start a couple of birds within a moment of one another. One flies in one direction, the other in another. It is a fine shot if you bring the first one down and then, wheeling, kill the other. It is marvelous how accurate some partridge hunters are. I have seen several who, during a whole day's sport when the birds were numerous, did not miss more than two or three shots.

"During the partridge season many Northern gentlemen came down to hunt, and ties were formed between Northern and Southern families which not even the Civil War could break. In most of the counties partridges have now become so scarce that but for the rigid enforcement of the game laws they would speedily disappear. Woodcock are still plentiful at certain seasons in the swamps and along the margins of the 'branches;' and water-rail provide fine shooting in Caroline County, and certain portions of Delaware. Rabbits do not seem to diminish perceptibly in numbers, and squirrels are as numerous as ever. 'Coon' and 'possum' hunting are as popular with the Negroes as ever, but their glories departed with the abolition of slavery. . . . Partridge shooting is undoubtedly dangerous sport, when more than two form the party, or when an inexperienced person is along. A very nervous gentleman went out with a party of three fine shots in our neighborhood once. The best shot in the party was an irascible old fellow, tall and portly, with a very red face and a savage pair of eyes. Noticing how carefully the young man held his gun, he muttered something and turned away with a frown. They proceeded on their way, and having reached a thicket, he instructed the young man to remain in the open field, while the others went in and beat up the birds. He told him that he might fire

at the birds *away from*, but not in the direction of the thicket. In a few minutes the birds were flushed and made for the open. A report followed, and a shower of leaves and twigs fell on the old gentleman in the thicket.

"Just as I expected!" he roared, and rushing out into the field he shook his fist at the young man and shouted, "If you do that again, I'll put a hole in you that my p'inter dog can jump through!"

"It is needless to say that the young man lost all relish for the sport for that day at least."

Boating Parties and Picnics: "Sailing, rowing, and fishing were also delightful recreations, and many a damsel has been wooed and won on those dreamy moonlight expeditions down some tortuous cove whose convenient shadows provided such convenient obscurations of the tell-tale orb. Often a party was formed and the day spent on the river shore in the cool shade of elms or cedars. Crabs, oysters, and fish just from the water were cooked in a pot suspended over a huge fire of logs or roasted in the coals. A bit of green sward having been selected, a cloth was spread upon it, and the company dined *al fresco*, seated Turkish fashion. Of course all threw themselves into the spirit of the occasion with gay abandon, and the result was usually a delightfully jolly time.

"It would be too much to say that the peculiar charm of social life in rural Maryland has departed, but it has certainly lost its old ease and luxury, its sense of comparative irresponsibility, and that vivid coloring which was imparted by the customs which became obsolete when slavery ceased."

And so wrote Mr. Emory in 1882.

5. OTHER SPORTS.

Baseball, as indicated by Mr. Nichols above, has had a strong appeal to Eastern Shoremen from its inception. Whether it be played by pre-school children, in the schools and colleges, on the sandlots, or on the professional field, it is doubtlessly the most popular sport on the Eastern Shore.

Despite its appeal, however, professional baseball has never had smooth sailing for any great length of time on the Shore. The Eastern Shore League, a Class D Circuit, has been in existence three times: 1922-1927, 1937-1941, and 1946-1949. The withdrawal of major league support for the game in key towns like Salisbury and Easton made it impossible for the League to continue following the 1949 season. Independent operation of the clubs seemed out of the question, although in some cases, as in that of Federalsburg in 1949, it proved successful. The League has been composed of several combinations during the years, being last composed of Easton, Salisbury, Cambridge, and Federalsburg in Maryland, and Rehoboth and Seaford in Delaware. Many of its players rose to higher leagues, some reaching stardom in the major circuits.

Fishing has been not only the source of a livelihood for many Eastern Shoremen, but also a tremendously popular sport. Ocean City has attracted thousands for surf-casting (channel bass, etc.) and marlin fishing has been particularly popular. Interest in fishing in all its forms led to the organization of the Chesapeake Bay Fishing Fair Association in the mid-thirties, with Max Chambers of Preston, Maryland, as the prime mover. Various sites on the Chesapeake Bay and on tidewater rivers have been chosen for the annual fishing fair. With much fanfare and pageantry, fishermen from nearby and distant points vie for many trophies and prizes awarded in such categories as weight, ugliest

fish, youngest angler, oldest angler, and so on. Often a crab feast follows the awarding of prizes. The fair normally is held over a two day stretch.

Hunting quail is still a popular sport on the Eastern Shore and in 1948 an increase in the bob-white family was reported, due largely to the excellent game conservation program designed by Ernest A. Vaughn, state game director. He has been aided greatly by county soil conservation agencies and 4-H clubs. Hunting for geese, ducks, coon, rabbits, and squirrels continues.



(Photos by Perry-Pix, Salisbury)

Typical Chesapeake Bay Fishing Resort, Near Salisbury

Fox-hunting is a sport that might well be renewed on a large scale on the Eastern Shore, for in January, 1948, it was reported that foxes had increased so greatly in number that they were now chasing the hounds (*Baltimore Evening Sun*, January 27, 1948)!

Practically every sport known elsewhere is to be found on the Eastern Shore, including football (played at Washington College, Maryland State College, Salisbury and Cambridge high schools, and independently); basketball, played in virtually every school of all levels and by independent and league teams; jousting or the Ring Tournament; horse shows; soccer, track and field events, lacrosse (Washington College); wrestling, boxing, etc. etc. Golf is a very popular sport, with most towns of size having country clubs for golf and yachting. Eastern Shore as well as club tournaments are held continuously during the playing season. Even a bicycle parade was held in Pocomoke City in 1948. Indoor sports of every variety are known on the Eastern Shore.

CHAPTER XLI

Modern Economic Life on the Eastern Shore

I. INTRODUCTION

"The basic ways of making a living on the Eastern Shore are farming and vocations connected with sea food. Those not engaged in these occupations, such as professional workers, depend upon them nevertheless for their livelihood¹. . . . The story in brief in 1930 was that one-half the employed depended directly on agriculture for a livelihood, 40% depended indirectly on agricultural profits for their earnings, and of the remaining ten per cent of earners one-third were supplemental wage earners employed largely in clothing factories. . . . Outside of agriculture and fishing with their related canning factories, and outside of those who made a living serving those employed in these two pursuits, there remained less than ten per cent of the employed group."² The table below, compiled by Frank Goodwin, and based upon the 1930 Census shows how people were employed two decades ago on the Eastern Shore of Maryland:³

Basic Industries . . . The Major Ones

Agriculture	28,311
Forestry and Fishing	4,270
"Other Food" and Allied Industries (canning houses) vegetable, and sea food	2,339
Clothing Industries (mostly female)	2,396
	37,316

Industries to Serve the Wage Earners in Basic Industries

Transportations, Communication, Streets, etc.	4,645
Selling and Caring for Their Cars	1,808
Professional, Domestic and Personal Service	11,314
Trade, Retail, and Wholesale—including bakeries, butchers, etc.	7,633
Building and Independent Hand Trades	4,549
	29,949

Basic Industries . . . The Minor Ones

Includes Extraction of Minerals, Chemicals, Clay, Glass and Stone, All Metal Industries, Lumber and Furniture, Textiles	5,600
---	-------

Not Specified in the Census	1,761
All	74,626

By 1940, in spite of an increase in population, the number of wage earners, not on public emergency work, had declined by 2,478 or 3.3%. The decline in agricultural pursuits was 17.0%, while fishing and water pursuits fell off 35.2%. Canning plants as well as factories making apparel and other fabricated

textile products increased. "In spite of the decline, agriculture was still the basic industry on the Shore in 1940. Here nearly a third of all workers were employed. Of the males employed, 40.6% were engaged in farming. The effects of an agricultural and rural economy still were dominant. The basic industries (agriculture, fishing, canning, and clothing manufacture) still accounted for 44.2% of all workers."⁴

The distribution of wage earners on the Eastern Shore of Maryland in 1940 was as follows:⁵

<i>Industry Group</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Agriculture	22,605	898	23,503
Forestry and Fishery	2,756	12	2,768
Construction	3,837	40	3,877
Food and Kindred Products (mfg.)	2,033	849	2,882
Textile-mills Products (mfg.)	340	185	525
Apparel and Other Fabricated Products (mfg.)	235	2,517	2,752
Logging, Sawmills, Planing Mills	575	42	617
Furniture, Store Fixtures, etc.	388	93	481
Paper, Allied Products (mfg.)	252	31	283
Printing, Publishing, Allied Industries	268	43	311
Chemicals, Allied Products (mfg.)	659	190	849
Iron, Steel, and their Products (mfg.)	269	27	296
Transportation Equipment (mfg.) except Auto	312	7	319
Other and not specified Manufacturing Industries	706	452	1,158
Other specified Manufacturing Industries ⁶	579	75	654
Railroads (inc. R. R. Repair Shops) and Ry. Express	832	9	841
Trucking Service	773	10	783
Other Transportation	669	23	692
Communication	148	221	369
Utilities	453	72	525
Wholesale Trade	2,049	558	2,607
Food and Dairy Products Stores, and Milk Retailing	1,625	245	1,870
Eating and Drinking Places	423	470	893
Motor Vehicles & Accessories Retail & Filling Stations	988	53	1,041
Other Retail Trade	2,387	939	3,326
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	810	266	1,076
Auto Storage, Rental, Repair	945	25	970
Business and Repair Service, except Automobile	333	25	358
Domestic Service	695	4,260	4,955
Hotels and Lodging Places	197	285	482
Laundering, Cleaning, Dyeing	232	189	421
Miscellaneous Personal Services	464	389	853
Amusement, Recreation, Related Services	330	44	374
Professional, Related Services	1,844	1,833	3,677
Government	1,043	345	1,388
Industry not reported	1,628	744	2,372
Totals	55,682	16,466	72,148

"Progress on Maryland's Eastern Shore since the end of World War II has been verging on the spectacular—yet it is a sound, substantial growth reflected

by new homes, new business structures and new industries.”⁷ James C. Mullikin, staff correspondent of the Baltimore *Sunday American*, was sent to make a survey of this progress. His articles⁸ were concluded as follows:

“Anyone who regards the Eastern Shore as an isolated backward region is hopelessly out of date himself. The Shore is alive, alert, and far ahead of most other rural areas. Down on the Shore they call it, with plenty of justification, ‘The Peninsula of Plenty.’ From present indications, based on its recent growth, it is bound to progress more and more.” So proud are Shoremen of their progress that residents of Preston and Harmony in Caroline County were annoyed when Mullikin failed to mention their communities. Edward Breeding of Preston wrote his own description of progress in the two towns and found it printed alongside Mullikin’s second article.

2. AGRICULTURE

The Eastern Shore, when converted into cold facts and figures by the United States Census Bureau, becomes a land principally of corn, wheat, hay, and tomatoes. Of the acreage harvested in 1939, corn constituted over a third (35.3%); wheat between a fourth and a fifth (22.5%); hay nearly a fifth (19.4%); and tomatoes 7.2%. Other crops included Irish potatoes (1.4%), barley (1.8%), rye (1.7%), and oats (0.7%), but 84.4% of all land harvested was devoted to the four major crops: corn, wheat, hay and tomatoes.⁹

World War II naturally necessitated greater production of food and the Eastern Shore, despite labor difficulties and the shortage of machinery and farm supplies, rose nobly to the occasion. The state as a whole increased the production of food by over 40 percent during the period 1940-1945. A study released in December, 1946, by the University of Maryland depicted the change between 1940 and 1945 by counties as follows:¹⁰

Caroline—The 1,776 farms in Caroline County reported a gross income of \$6,718,956 in 1945, as shown by the U. S. Census of Agriculture. This increase is the result of extensive shifts to the production of broilers, milk cows and vegetables. Broilers were increased by 2,260,000 head, and the total was 3 times the number reported in 1940. Milk cows were increased by 16.6 percent, and there was an increase of 31.0 percent in the acreage of vegetables. This county reported 4,697 acres of tomatoes, which were used primarily in processing. With the increase in livestock numbers, farmers also expanded the production of feed crops. The acreage of barley was increased by 1,933 acres. Oat acreage was increased by 554 acres, and farmers reported an increase of 1,346 acres of hay.¹¹

Cecil—Dairying is being increased in Cecil County, as indicated by the 1945 Census of Agriculture. Farmers reported 11,211 cow milked, which was an increase of 404 head during the five year period, 1940 to 1945. Other increases in the production of livestock were as follows; Hogs, 79.4 percent; mature chickens, 30.1 percent; and sheep, 17.2 percent. The number of horses and mules declined materially, and an increase of 25.1 percent in the number of farms reporting tractors indicates the trend toward farm mechanization. Census reports show that corn acreage was reduced by 1,479 acres. However, the increase in yield per acre resulted in a 13.6 percent increase in production. Barley acreage continued to increase, and a heavy shift to soybeans and oats was reported.¹²

Dorchester—Farms in Dorchester County totaled 1,509 in 1945, a gain of 23 farms over the number reported by the 1940 Census of Agriculture. These farms showed increases in milk cows, sheep and hogs, and decreases in horses and mules.

Vegetable production was the principal agricultural enterprise in this county, and the acreage was increased by 10.5 percent. Farmers reported a



(Photos by Perry-Pix, Salisbury)

Sweet Potatoes for Canning in Typical Eastern Shore Cannery

total of 16,563 acres devoted to vegetables. Of these, 8,435 acres were in tomatoes, which was the highest acreage reported by any county in Maryland. The acreage of tomatoes, most of which was for canning purposes, was increased by 29.8 percent. This great expansion was made in response to the call for more canned tomatoes for war needs. Dorchester County farmers in 1945 produced products valued at \$4,667,635, which was twice the value reported for 1940. Farmers also reported increased farm facilities. The following increases were reported: Electricity, 27.0 percent; tractors, 10.5 percent; motor trucks, 9.4 percent; and automobiles, 1.6 percent.¹³

Kent—Kent County has the smallest number of farms of any county in Maryland, as shown by the 1945 Census of Agriculture, but the average acreage per farm is the largest of any county in the State. The 724 farms averaged 212.9 acres per farm in 1945 and produced products with a gross value of \$5,501 per farm, which was the third largest for any county in Maryland. During the 5-year period from 1940 to 1945, there was a strong shift from the production of cash grain,

corn and wheat, to the production of dairy cows for milk production. The acreage of wheat was decreased by 12.4 percent, and the acreage of corn for grain declined by 7.4 percent. However, the yield per acre for corn was increased so that the total production of corn for grain was 35.3 percent above that reported in the 1940 census. There has been a substantial shift to the production of barley, which increased by 2,174 acres, or 131 percent. With the decrease in numbers of horses and mules, farmers are shifting to the use of more mechanical power. They reported increases of 24.2 percent in the number of farms reporting tractors; 21.0 percent in farms using electricity; and 13.8 percent more farms had trucks.¹⁴

Queen Anne's—Milk and wheat were the leading agricultural enterprises in Queen Anne's County, as shown by the U. S. Census of Agriculture. Comparisons of reports for 1940 and 1945 show that the number of milk cows was increased by 13.6 percent and the average production per cow was up 16.3 percent. These two factors resulted in an increase of 32.1 percent in the amount of milk produced.

Farms in Queen Anne's County are getting fewer in number, but larger in size. The 1,207 farms reported for 1945 was 64 less than was enumerated in 1940, but the average acreage per farm was increased from 164.1 to 177.2 acres. With larger farms and increased mechanization, the shift in crop production was to crops that can be handled by machinery. Wheat was increased to 32,618 acres, or 1,790 acres above that reported for 1940; barley acreage increased 1,855 acres to a total of 4,550 acres; and the acreage of soybeans was 3,161, an increase of 1,622 acres.¹⁵

Somerset—Census of Agriculture reports indicate new life in the agriculture of Somerset County. The value of farm products produced in this county in 1945 amounted to \$5,964,943, or \$5,260 per farm, as compared with \$1,467 per farm in 1940. This increased income is the result of a great expansion in the production of broilers, which increased from 612,260 head in 1940, to 3,824,230 head in 1945, an increase of 3,211,970 head, or to 7 times the amount produced in 1940. Other notable increases during the past 5 years were in the production of turkeys, soybeans and snap beans. The increased income resulted in the purchase of electricity, tractors, trucks and radios. All of these farm facilities were increased even though wartime shortages made them difficult to secure. The production of livestock in this county is increasing as shown by the fact that farmers reported 16 percent more cattle, 72 percent more hogs, 12 percent more mature chickens and 11 percent more horses.¹⁶

Talbot—Talbot County had 5.5 percent fewer farms in 1945 than in 1940, but the average size of farms increased from 147.0 to 152.7 acres. The 976 farms in Talbot County reported a gross income of \$4,627,855, or \$4,913 per farm. Milk cows were increased by 535 head, or 8.8 percent between 1940 and 1945; hogs expanded by 4,958 head, or 90.6 percent; and chickens raised were increased by 425,645 head, or 91.1 percent. With the increased size of farms, a shortage of farm labor and a heavy demand for farm products, Talbot County farmers increased the mechanization of their farms, as shown by the fact that the number of horses were decreased 13.1 percent, mules by 27.9 percent, but the number of tractors increased by 15.2 percent, and 19.6 percent more farms reported electricity.

To feed the increased livestock farmers planted more corn, barley, soybeans, oats and alfalfa hay. Corn was increased by 1,730 acres, and barley acreage expanded 1,763 acres to provide the necessary livestock feed.¹⁷

Wicomico—Wicomico County led all Maryland counties in the production of sweet potatoes, and ranked high in the production of broilers, snap beans and miscellaneous vegetables. The value of farm products produced per farm in this county was increased from \$1,282 in 1940 to \$6,430 in 1945. Increased mechanization is resulting in a shift to larger sized farms, as shown by the fact that the number of farms was decreased by 208 but the average size was increased by 4.1 percent. Horses and mules declined by 528 head, and milk cows by 141 head. Mature chickens decreased by 17,492 head, but broilers increased by 7,401,896 head.¹⁸

Worcester—Worcester County led all counties in the value of farm products sold. The 1,484 farms in this county had a gross income of \$14,598,965, which was \$9,986 per farm. Changes in this county are the result of a great expansion in the production of broilers. In 1940, this county produced about 3 million broilers. However, by 1945 the production had increased to over 10 million. Worcester County continues to lead the State in the production of Irish potatoes. However, the acreage has continued to decrease, and in 1945 was 28.6 percent below the 1940 acreage. To meet war-time needs, the production of soybeans was increased by 3 times. The 5,008 acres of soybeans produced 64,982 bushels of soybeans for beans, most of which were used for oil, with some being used in livestock feed. Truck crops were increased during the 5-year period by 9 percent, with increases reported for snap beans, cabbage and tomatoes, but decreases for sweet corn and peas.¹⁹

During World War II, great agricultural achievements were noted. All records of agricultural production were broken by Marylanders as they turned out 40% more food with 30% less labor. They worked longer hours than ever before. Wives and daughters gave more help and farmers exchanged labor machinery. They "remodeled, rebuilt, repaired, and devised all sorts of short cuts and labor-saving techniques."²⁰

The University of Maryland Extension Service was assigned by Congress the responsibility for carrying out the Emergency Farm Labor Program in the State. It did an excellent job, with the co-operation of Emergency Farm Program officials, County Agents in all counties, the farm people, workers from the cities and towns, officials of the Federal Extension Service, the Office of Labor of the War Food Administration, the War Manpower Commission, the Third Service Command of the U. S. Army, and the State Farm Labor Committee which included representatives of the Farm Bureau and State Grange.

As the Government of the United States urged farmers to plant huge crops and to raise record numbers of livestock, the Extension Service made plans to supply labor. Labor assistants working as committees were appointed by County Agents to render aid. Later these committees were incorporated into co-operative farm labor associations and charged with administering the farm labor program in their area. New sources of labor were tapped: boys and girls and women vacationists; part-time services of towns people in harvest emergencies; soldiers and sailors on leave; workers from Jamaica, the Bahamas, and the Barbados Islands; German prisoners of war; migrant southern workers; conscientious objectors; and inmates of Maryland penal camps were employed. No potential source of labor was left untapped.

Emergency Farm Labor camps for boys were established in Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's, Talbot, Dorchester, and Wicomico counties; for foreign workers in Kent, Queen Anne's, Dorchester, Wicomico, and Somerset counties; for

southern migrants in Caroline, Dorchester, Wicomico, Somerset, and Worcester counties; and for prisoners of war in Queen Anne's, Talbot, Dorchester, and Worcester; and for domestic prisoners in Queen Anne's County.²¹

Essential year-round farm workers were deferred by Selective Service Boards and they formed the backbone of the wartime labor force throughout Maryland, particularly on dairy farms.²² Greater mechanization which fortunately had been going on for several years, as well as adoption of labor-saving devices aided the cause greatly. The Extension Service sponsored a labor-saving show on each Shore in co-operation with local farmers to put ideas across.

The great progress made during the war constituted a foundation upon which farmers could build a sound and valuable postwar labor program. It had been found that farm labor associations, so much more than the individual, could provide better camps, more continuous work, and better health protection to workers, as well as analyze area needs, guide agencies conducting programs on their behalf, and make recommendations for the future. Another outcome of the war was a better spirit of co-operation between states, between employers in various states, and between workers and employers.²³

Migratory labor has been employed steadily since the war to help in the harvesting of the large tomato crop. At its peak in the summer of 1949, the migratory population on the Eastern Shore was between 5,000 and 6,000. Maryland, ranking third among the states in tomato production, realized \$16,000,000 on this vegetable in 1948. Most of the growing and the canning is done on the Eastern Shore. Dorchester County, center of the industry, has 23 canneries while other Shore counties have nearly 80. There are about 50 on the Western Shore.²⁴

The Eastern Shore has long been famous also for its production of sweet corn, potatoes, berries, cantaloupes, and water-melons. In 1947 when the U. S. Census Bureau ranked the 100 leading counties in the United States for a selected number of agricultural items, it was disclosed that Wicomico County ranked ninth, with 5,822 acres. Five other counties in Maryland ranked among the leading 100 counties in the United States in acreage of vegetables harvested for sale. Baltimore County ranked 21st, while on the Eastern Shore Dorchester ranked 38th, Caroline 52nd, Somerset 91st, and Talbot, 95th. In the production of fresh beans, Somerset ranked 20th, Wicomico 22nd, Dorchester 39th and Worcester 48th. Queen Anne's County ranked 24th in acres of sweet corn harvested for sale—the highest rank on the Eastern Shore, although Frederick County ranked 11th and Carroll, 17th. Talbot ranked 29th, Caroline 43rd, and Cecil 47th. In the acreage of tomatoes harvested for sale, 11 Maryland counties ranked within the leading 100. Dorchester led, ranking 9th, while Worcester, Somerset, Caroline, Wicomico, Talbot, Kent, and Queen Anne's also ranked high. No Maryland county ranked in the first 100 in value of fruits. Worcester, however, was 87th in the number of peach trees.²⁵

Agricultural co-operative business, first evident in Maryland in the early 1870s, developed steadily and in the 1930s there were between 65 and 70 active farmers' co-operatives. In May, 1941, the Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of Maryland reported a total of 65 in the State of which fifteen were on the Eastern Shore. Marketing associations were found in Queen Anne's, Talbot (2), Wicomico (4), and Somerset. Two purchasing associations were located in Kent, one each in Queen Anne's, Talbot, Caroline, and Wicomico, while a single service association was found in Dorchester County.²⁶

In 1947 a study of farm real estate trends in Maryland was released, based

upon the situation in five counties—Frederick, Harford, and St. Mary's on the Western Shore, and Queen Anne's and Somerset on the Eastern Shore. They are presented herewith:²⁷

AVERAGE SALES PRICE PER ACRE OF FARM LAND,
IN FIVE MARYLAND COUNTIES, 1936-1946

<i>Year</i>	<i>Frederick</i>	<i>Harford</i>	<i>Queen Anne's</i>	<i>St. Mary's</i>	<i>Somerset</i>	<i>Average</i>
1936.....	\$38.12	\$52.46	\$27.19	\$29.61	\$29.04	\$36.86
1937.....	46.15	59.41	30.65	29.73	24.04	39.54
1938.....	42.88	52.80	33.31	29.55	30.70	39.83
1939.....	45.48	57.79	36.25	30.04	30.79	42.04
1940.....	44.40	73.35	31.86	30.37	24.66	43.11
1941.....	43.80	65.36	38.67	35.20	22.32	41.88
1942.....	54.96	75.76	35.22	36.18	29.40	47.65
1943.....	66.29	81.20	36.54	40.01	30.58	53.13
1944.....	60.24	90.03	37.10	43.14	37.65	57.24
1945.....	66.42	94.35	42.45	55.16	51.82	63.94
1946*.....	74.45	106.97	51.95	87.26	50.41	77.02

* Six months ending June 30, 1946.

FARM ACREAGE SOLD AS PER CENT OF ALL LANDS IN FARMS*
FOR FIVE COUNTIES IN MARYLAND, 1936-1946

<i>Year</i>	<i>Frederick</i>	<i>Harford</i>	<i>Queen Anne's</i>	<i>St. Mary's</i>	<i>Somerset</i>	<i>Average</i>
1936.....	3.0	4.4	4.0	5.3	7.9	4.3
1937.....	3.7	5.7	5.7	8.4	4.9	5.7
1938.....	3.9	3.7	3.6	4.5	4.4	3.9
1939.....	3.8	4.0	4.8	7.0	3.7	4.5
1940.....	3.9	4.4	4.5	7.8	5.5	4.8
1941.....	4.3	5.2	4.9	9.1	12.6	6.2
1942.....	4.5	5.5	5.4	8.7	9.4	6.0
1943.....	5.9	6.9	5.7	7.8	12.2	7.1
1944.....	6.3	6.9	5.7	6.6	12.2	6.9
1945.....	6.0	6.6	7.3	8.5	6.7	6.8
1946**.....	4.7	6.6	4.3	5.8	6.3	5.4

* Based on all land in farms. From the U. S. Census of Agriculture for 1940.

** Six months ending June 30, 1946.

Eastern Shoremen seem more gregarious by nature than many groups and they come together often for pleasure and profit in the agricultural line. In 1948, for example, the following farm gatherings were scheduled:

Maryland Hampshire Swine Breeders annual picnic at the Mount Ararat Farms, Port Deposit, Cecil County—June 6, 1948.

Irish Potato Demonstration and Annual Field Day at the Willard T. Pilchard Farm, Pocomoke City—June 15.

The Queen Anne's County Fair—July 24.

Eastern Shore Regional Hampshire Swine Show at Centreville—August 10.

The Delmarva Guernsey Breeders Field Day at Salisbury—August 10.

Eastern Shore Guernsey Breeders Field Day at the Pioneer Point Farm in Centreville—August 12.

Baltimore, Harford, and Cecil District Guernsey Breeders Field Day at Timonium Fair Grounds, Baltimore—August 13.

Holstein Field Day and the Eastern Shore Jersey Field Day, both at Galena, Kent County—August 13.

Holstein Field Day at Garland Lake, Denton—August 14.

Hampshire sow sale, at Mount Ararat Farms, Port Deposit—August 23.

Cecil County Fair—September 11.

Wicomico County Farm and Home Show at Salisbury—Oct. 7-9.

Chesapeake-Delaware Ayrshire Club sale, Woodside, Delaware—August 21.²⁸



(Photos by Perry-Pix, Salisbury)

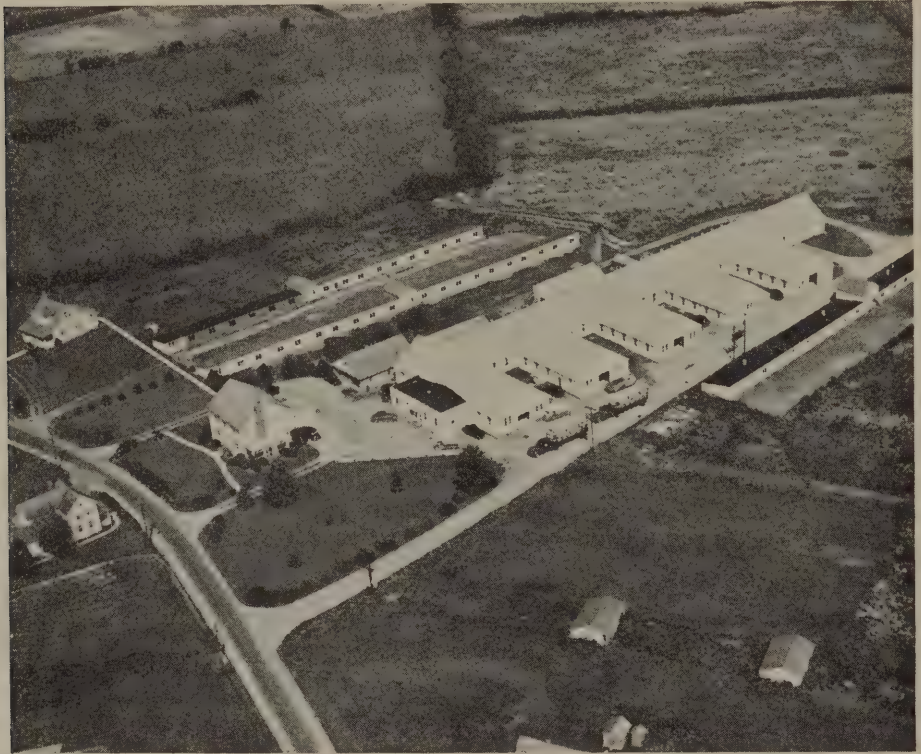
*Typical Eastern Shore Hatchery with Capacity of
Two and One Half Million Baby Chicks*

3. POULTRY

The poultry industry has had such a phenomenal growth on the Eastern Shore that it merits special attention. James C. Mullikin, in his survey of the postwar development on the Eastern Shore, stated in May, 1949, that Wicomico, Somerset, and Worcester counties are "more prosperous . . . than ever before in their history, and the foundation for that prosperity rests largely upon the gigantic broiler industry."²⁹

The Delmarva peninsula is enriched by about \$80,000,000 a year by this in-

dustry. Between 80 and 90 million broilers are raised annually for the markets. Sussex County in lower Delaware is the leading broiler-raising county in the United States, but Worcester County, Maryland ranks second (producing 10,487,931 broilers in 1947), Wicomico County fifth, Somerset fourteenth, and Caroline, sixteenth. These counties are called the true "broiler belt," although it spills over into adjoining counties—Dorchester and Talbot in Maryland and Kent in Dela-



(Photos by Perry-Pix, Salisbury)

Morris Poultry Farm, Bishopville

ware. The tremendous growth began in the 1920s—it is estimated that in 1923 only about 1,000 broilers were produced for shipment a year—and reached its peak during World War II when broiler production hit a record of 110 million. Since the war, production in this area has stabilized at about 80 million, or about one-third of the total produced in the United States. The broiler industry—the Eastern Shore's largest—"has been a powerful stimulant to all other businesses on the lower Shore."³⁰

The industry has grown so greatly that now an annual Delmarva Chicken Festival is held. That of July 12-14, 1949, staged at Salisbury, was the second. It was highlighted by the first National Chicken Cooking Contest. Other activities included the selection of a Festival Queen, the staging of a poultry and egg show, a parade, and a dance. The various activities called for a budget of \$11,750.³¹

Placements of chicks in Delmarva broiler houses in the week that ended October 22, 1949, hit a record of 3,227,000. Fourteen weeks earlier (the

normal time it takes to produce broilers weighing from 2½ to 4 pounds) only 1,705,000 chicks were placed in houses in this broiler-producing area. All-time records were threatened at this rate.³²

As in the case of all industries, the poultry industry runs into the usual economic ills. In early 1950 a price crisis was imminent due to a consistent over supply. Harry H. Rieck, of Preston, a past president of both the Maryland State Poultry Council and the Northeast Poultry Producers Council and one of the largest producers in the Eastern Shore area, pointed to the eighteen cents a pound (live weight) which producers were receiving for broilers and added that in order for an efficient producer to break even a figure around twenty-four cents a pound to the wholesaler was necessary. He predicted that low prices would force many producers out in two months, although most of them could hang on for six months. He did not favor a price support plan by the United States Department of Agriculture, however, stating that it would not end the broiler glut and consequently it would keep the price down and near whatever parity price was set. He also feared additional production controls by the Government that might follow.

4. MANUFACTURES

Despite the fact that the Eastern Shore of Maryland is predominantly agricultural, the latest official information shows an increasing diversity and a greater amount of manufacturing. In this survey, establishments are included which are defined as primarily engaged in manufacturing.³³

The table below, including data from both the United States Bureau of the Census and the Maryland Department of Labor and Industry, compares the situation in 1947 with that of 1939 and shows the relative position of the Eastern Shore with the State of Maryland as a whole.

Broken down by major industry groups, the types of manufacturing plants and their totals for each county are shown below:

Caroline County—Food and kindred products, 39; apparel and related products, 4; lumber and products, excluding furniture, 4; printing and publishing industries, 5; chemicals and allied products, 2; stone, clay, and glass products, 1; transportation equipment, 2; miscellaneous manufactures, 5. Total, 62.

Cecil County—Food and kindred products, 7; textile mill products, 2; apparel and related products, 1; lumber and products, excluding furniture, 7; paper and allied products, 3; printing and publishing industries, 3; rubber products, 1; stone, clay, and glass products, 2; primary metal industries, 1; fabricated metal products, 1; electrical machinery, 1; miscellaneous manufactures, 5; chemical and allied products, 2. Total, 36.

Dorchester County—Food and kindred products, 36; apparel and related products, 8; lumber and products, excluding furniture, 11; printing and publishing industries, 3; chemicals and allied products, 2; stone, clay, and glass products, 3; fabricated metal products, 3; transportation equipment, 2. Total, 68.

Kent County—Food and kindred products, 11; textile mill products, 1; apparel and related products, 2; lumber and products, excluding furniture, 1; printing

and publishing industries, 1; chemicals and allied products, 1; stone, clay, and glass products, 1. Total, 18.

Queen Anne's County—Food and kindred products, 8; apparel and related products, 2; lumber and products, excluding furniture, 1; printing and publishing industries, 1; chemicals and allied products, 2; stone, clay, and glass products, 2. Total, 16.

Somerset County—Food and kindred products, 16; apparel and related products, 3; lumber and products, excluding furniture, 15; printing and publishing industries, 2; chemicals and allied products, 1; stone, clay, and glass products, 2; fabricated metal products, 2; transportation equipment, 2. Total, 43.

Talbot County—Food and kindred products, 19; textile mill products, 3; apparel and related products, 4; lumber and products, excluding furniture, 7; printing and publishing industries, 2; stone, clay, and glass products, 3; primary metal industries, 1; fabricated metal products, 1; transportation equipment, 2. Total, 42.

Wicomico County—Food and kindred products, 28; textile mill products, 1; apparel and related products, 19; lumber and products, excluding furniture, 22; furniture and fixtures, 1; paper and allied products, 1; printing and publishing industries, 7; chemicals and allied products, 3; stone, clay, and glass products, 6; primary metal industries, 1; machinery (except electrical), 2; transportation equipment, 3; miscellaneous manufactures, 2. Total, 96.

Worcester County—Food and kindred products, 26; textile mill products, 2; apparel and related products, 4; lumber and products, excluding furniture, 24; printing and publishing industries, 4; chemicals and allied products, 2; stone, clay, and glass products, 1. Total, 63.³⁴

The Eastern Shore, predominantly rural and a conservative region generally, has not been a fertile field for labor unionization. Probably in this matter the sentiments of Representative Edward T. Miller are those of the great majority. Prior to the Congressional elections of 1948, he reiterated his faith in the much disputed Taft-Hartley Labor Act of 1947, asserting that it "protects management, labor union members, and the people of this country against unscrupulous labor union practises." He would not be pressurized, he said, to change his stand. His statement came following the announcement that the CIO Political Action Committee of Maryland would back his Democratic rival.³⁵

Efforts to unionize the employees of the Excelsior Pearl Works, Incorporated, at Federalsburg, failed in January, 1949, in a more or less typical situation. The vote, ordered by the National Labor Relations Board, showed 258 non-union ballots and 65 votes for the union. Requested by the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, the voting was orderly. The Federalsburg *Times*, in its news item reporting the election, indicated its feelings in the matter by stating: "The employees should be complimented on their choice in keeping the union out of the plant. . ."³⁶ An ineffective strike in October, 1947, was a part of the two-year effort to unionize the plant. A long letter written by H. B. Messenger appeared in the Federalsburg *Times* during the week prior to the election. It cited probable results of unionization, questioned benefits, and urged all who should be interested—including everyone in the community—to know what they were doing before taking an irrevocable step.³⁷

MANUFACTURING DATA FOR EASTERN SHORE COUNTIES—1947 and 1939

1947

1939

County	Number of Establishments	All employees		Production Workers		Value Added by Manufacture*		1939 Production Workers		Value Added by Manufacture*
		Number	Salaries & Wages Total*	Number	Wages, Total*	\$	\$	Number	of Estab- lishments	the year)
Caroline	62 (72)	2,176	\$ 3,004	2,071	\$ 2,688	\$	6,605	50	1,600	\$ 1,784
Cecil	36 (62)	1,323	2,795	1,212	2,340		5,463	26	892	1,367
Dorchester	68 (83)	3,512	6,231	3,168	4,843		13,352	69	2,753	4,701
Kent	18 (24)	797	1,107	771	1,020		1,488	14	155	279
Queen Anne's	16 (28)	222	336	200	280		728	16	138	161
Somerset	43 (60)	1,130	1,718	1,052	1,487		3,240	42	792	876
Talbot	42 (66)	995	1,844	925	1,592		3,185	36	620	723
Wicomico	96 (93)	4,506	7,616	4,042	6,051		13,129	72	3,457	4,948
Worcester	63 (60)	2,107	3,137	1,968	2,710		5,423	45	1,087	1,028
EASTERN SHORE	444 (548)	16,768	\$ 27,788	15,409	\$ 23,011	\$	52,613	370	11,494	\$ 15,867
MARYLAND	2,825	228,553	\$612,035	188,639	\$458,244	\$	1,138,407	2,712	140,930	\$420,589

* All money figures in thousands of dollars.

** Inserted for a comparative note, these figures are taken from the *Directory of Maryland Manufacturers, 1949* (published by the Maryland Department of Labor and Industry).

CATCH OF BLUE CRABS, 1946⁴⁴—EASTERN SHORE COUNTIES

County	Hard Crabs		Peeler Crabs		Soft Crabs		Totals	
	Number	Pounds	Number	Pounds	Number	Pounds	Number	Pounds
Dorchester	28,070,700	9,356,900	553,678	138,419	38,500	9,625	28,662,878	9,504,944
Kent	2,692,500	897,500	11,002	2,750	12,132	3,033	2,715,634	903,283
Queen Anne's	4,368,300	1,456,100	60,975	15,244	31,944	7,998	4,461,269	1,479,342
Somerset	21,382,500	7,127,500	8,405,421	2,101,355	29,787,921	9,228,855
Talbot	10,025,400	3,341,800	4,751	1,188	6,000	1,500	10,036,151	3,344,488
Worcester	3,573,900	1,191,300	146,515	36,628	3,720,415	1,227,928
EASTERN SHORE								
MARYLAND	76,296,600	25,432,200	9,260,339	2,315,083	476,604	119,150	86,033,543	27,866,433

5. SEAFOOD

Maryland has a special natural resource in seafood, a three-to-five million dollar industry, providing employment for approximately 10,000 persons. Some Eastern Shore communities, notably Crisfield and the Tangier Sound area, are largely dependent upon it.³⁸ And such is the case, for Crisfield is called the "seafood capital of the world," not an idle boast.³⁹ The 1949 crab season was



(Photos by Perry-Pix, Salisbury)

Tonging Oysters in Near Zero Weather, Tangier Sound, Near Crisfield

the biggest—from the standpoint of crabs processed—in more than thirty years. Twenty packing firms were handling the record catch. Some crabbers were earning sixty dollars a day, at three dollars a barrel. Crab pickers in Crisfield were receiving a dollar an hour, or fifteen cents more than in other areas.

In 1948, Maryland waters produced 11,000,000 soft-shell crabs. Most of the total catch was shipped from Crisfield. At the latter point is a freezing plant which was reported in September, 1949, to be bulging with about 250,000 dozen soft-shell crabs. This overproduction meant that 1949 was not "as profitable for packers . . . but from the standpoint of the town's economic situation it has been an excellent season," one packer reported.⁴⁰ Packers and watermen still make mental comparisons with the years 1943-1947 when seafood was one of the few unrationed items the housewife could buy. A number of seafood packers are said to have retired on their earnings in these lush years.⁴¹ Several new seafood packing plants have been added in Crisfield since the war.

The soft shell crab industry, centered around lower Tangier and POCO-

moke Sounds, is divided fairly equitably between Maryland and Virginia by the boundary of the two states. The crab industry is divided between the soft shell and the hard shell markets. The "hard" crab catch far exceeds that of "soft" crabs both in volume and total value. Soft shell crabs, however, are considerably more valuable per unit of volume and support a thriving business in the areas where they can be taken in sufficient numbers to be of commercial importance. The total crab industry has a value to the catcher of over \$1,000,000.⁴² The number of crabs in the Bay over the past several years has fluctuated violently from a high of 36,938,000 pounds in 1930, to a low of 12,811,700 pounds in 1941.⁴³

Hard crabs are sold to packers by the "barrel" containing 100 pounds. Peelers and soft crabs are sold by the dozen. Peeler crabs are held in floating live boxes, and when shedding is complete, they are sold as soft crabs. Hard crabs average one-third pound in weight; soft and peeler crabs average one-fourth pound in weight.

Obviously, the Eastern Shore handles the brunt of the crab industry. In the state at large, Dorchester ranks first, Somerset second, Talbot third, Queen Anne's fourth, and Worcester fifth.

Of a total of 1,779 crabbers licensed by Maryland in 1946, 285 were from Dorchester County, 125 from Kent, 149 from Queen Anne's, 342 from Somerset, 189 from Talbot, 3 from Wicomico, and 143 from Worcester, or a total of 1,236 for the Eastern Shore. Of a total of 57 crab packers licensed in the state, 19 were in Dorchester County, 1 in Kent, 4 in Queen Anne's, 23 in Somerset, 5 in Talbot, and 2 in Worcester, or a total of 54. Of 160 shippers licensed by the state, 8 were in Dorchester, 7 in Kent, 5 in Queen Anne's, 68 in Somerset, 5 in Talbot, and 10 in Worcester, or a total of 103.⁴⁵

OYSTERS

MANDALA(Y)MENT FOR BAY OYSTERS⁴⁶

In the Marylander's diet, from the mountains to the sea,
There's a vacant space a-starin,' where the oyster used to be;
For the dredgers have departed, 'though their ghosts remain to say:
"Come you back, you old bay oyster, come you back to Chesapeake Bay."

Come you back to Chesapeake Bay,
Where the oyster fleet once lay:
Can't you 'ear the dredges chunkin' down to Crisfield—all the way?
In the depths of Chesapeake Bay,
Oysters now no longer play,
For their foes made too much thunder in Annapolis 'crost the bay!

Their shells were rough and hoary, but their meat was mighty sweet.
We called 'em "heaven on half-shell"—and, ye gods, how we did eat!
We ate 'em à la Astor, sautéed, panned, and en brochette,
'Though in just their uncooked nudeness was the best way they were et.
Juicy mollusks from the mud,
Worshiped to the last taste-bud,
Plucky lot we recked the future when we shucked 'em where we stood
On the shores of Chesapeake Bay!

But that's all shove behind us—long ago an' fur away,
An' there aint no oysters comin' from the depths of Chesapeake Bay;

For we're learnin' in the Free State what the wise ones tried to say:
 "When you've eaten all your oysters, all you've got's an empty bay."
 All you've got's an empty bay,
 An' you'll have to learn to pay
 For oysters from Virginia an' from up Long Island way,
 But no more from Chesapeake Bay!

Oh, we're sick o' wastin' sauces on these gritty furrin fish.
 Why, the price of importation takes the flavor from the dish!
 'Though we cook 'em à la Astor, en brochette, sautéed and panned,
 They still don't taste like oysters; they are more than we can stand!
 Leath'ry, limp an' grubby, and—
 Law! wot do they understand?
 'Twas a cleaner, sweeter oyster that our dredgers used to land
 From the boats of Chesapeake Bay!

Ship us something not from Norfolk, where their best is like our worst.
 'Though we've scorned the laws of nature, we have not yet lost our thirst
 For the succulence of bivalves like the ones we used to know.
 "Come you back, you old bay oyster; we have learned to miss you so!"
 Come you back to Chesapeake Bay,
 Where the oyster fleet once lay:
 Can't you 'ear the dredges chunkin' down to Crisfield—all the way?
 In the depths of Chesapeake Bay,
 Oysters now no longer play,
 For their foes made too much thunder in Annapolis 'crost the bay!
—W. E. W.

In 1940 oysters constituted 75 per cent of the 40,000,000 pounds of shell fish taken annually from the Chesapeake Bay, crabs 24 per cent, and clams a far smaller percentage. A majority of the more than 200 varieties of finfish native to the Chesapeake are found in Maryland waters.⁴⁷ A total of 2,702,814 bushels of oysters were dredged and tonged from Maryland waters in 1948-1949, an increase of 25 per cent over the previous year. Most of the oysters, however, were taken from tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay rather than from the bay proper, according to the Tidewater Fisheries Department.⁴⁸ Tangier Sound and Eastern Bay produced most of the increase. The wet season gave a larger set in each, driving out the drill or screw borers, a specie of snails which devour small oysters.

The oyster harvest of 1948-1949 was small compared to the peak of 12,500,000 bushels sixty years ago. In 1948 there were only fifteen dredges in operation in the Bay as compared with a thousand fifty years earlier.⁴⁹ In 1948-1949, with an increased state appropriation, the Tidewater Fisheries Commission supervised the planting of 1,100,000 bushels of shells, 750,000 in seed areas, and 350,000 bushels on natural rocks. Also, 350,000 bushels of seed oysters were transplanted to growing areas. The Bay must be planted and farmed even as agricultural lands are, and a greater program is necessary according to David H. Wallace, Commission Chairman. According to the present law any oyster bar charted in the 1906-1912 survey as a natural bar is not open for leasing to private individuals, unless officially reclassified as barren—a long and difficult procedure. About 1,000 acres of the total 265,000 acres of charted oyster bottom in Maryland are being farmed currently by 1,000



(Photos by Perry-Pix, Salisbury)

Aerial View of Crisfield, "Seafood Capital of the World"

people, including about fifteen operators who carry on large businesses. All of the leased land is in the tributaries. Wallace thinks co-operatives would help to get around the reclassification difficulty and points out that the only existing co-operative in the whole seafood industry is a crabbing industry on Smith Island which has "been in operation seven or eight years and has meant a considerable improvement in the status of its 350 members." Wallace said the Tidewater Fisheries Commission opposed bay dredgers getting into Tan-

gier Sound, stating that it has a stock of oysters that will last for some time if caught at a relatively low rate.

In the 1945-1946 season, a total of 58 oyster dredge boats were licensed for county waters as follows: Dorchester, 29; Somerset, 17; Talbot, 12. They were not legal in other counties. Of a total of 3,686 tongers licensed in the state, 627 were from Dorchester, 287 from Kent, 451 from Queen Anne's, 251 from Somerset, 521 from Talbot, 261 from Wicomico (no license was required in Worcester), or a total of 2,398—approximately two-thirds. Of the 138 oyster packers licensed, 23 were in Dorchester, 7 in Kent, 18 in Queen Anne's, 43 in Somerset, 13 in Talbot, 5 in Wicomico, and 1 in Worcester, or a total of 110. Twenty-one dredge boats were licensed for operation on leased land. Two of these were from Dorchester, 1 from Somerset, and 1 from Wicomico, a total of four.⁵⁰

The importance of the oyster industry to the Eastern Shore is readily apparent from these facts.

The Tilghman Packing Company, of Tilghmans Island, founded in 1896-1897 by S. Taylor Harrison, J. Camper Harrison, and O. N. Harrison, and currently under the leadership of George T. Harrison, produces over 100,000 gallons of fresh oysters annually, in addition to handling the output of three other plants. It also handles several million hard crabs annually, markets large quantities of crabmeat, live and steamed hard crabs, and "Bobbed" crabs. Two fish packing plants are operated that prepare for market 3,000,000 to 5,000,000 herring annually. The company, employing over two hundred persons, operates and shares ownership on pound nets and other fishing gear and markets large quantities of rockfish, trout, bluefish, and other Chesapeake Bay fish in season. The Tilghman Canning Company, now consolidated with the Packing Company, cans thousands of herring and large quantities of vegetables.

During World War II the Tilghman Packing Company was awarded the War Food Administration's Achievement "A" Award. The dollar value for 1943's production totaled \$1,072,000. It included 7,000,000 pounds of canned seafood as well as thousands of pounds of vegetables. Over 18 per cent of the production was supplied directly to government agencies.⁵¹

Other packing centers of size are at Kent Island, Rock Hall, Fishing Creek, Nanticoke, Wingate, and Deal Island.

Next to the problem of oysters, Wallace points out that co-operation with Virginia with regard to fish and crabs is the greatest requisite. The Maryland General Assembly has passed a bill to establish an interstate commission to control conservation, and hopes Virginia will concur in 1950.⁵² Another aspect of the Department of Tidewater Fisheries program is the fish management program which limits the number of commercial licenses issued each year for taking of fin-fish.⁵³

Among important fishing centers on the Eastern Shore is Ocean City. Once chiefly a summer resort, it has in the last decade and a half made great strides forward. Its two docks receive and ship—to cities from Norfolk to Boston—about 3,500,000 pounds of fish a year. Income from this source is estimated at \$750,000 a year. The hurricane of 1939, along with the wreckage it left in its wake, washed out a passageway between the Atlantic and Sinepuxent Bay and boosted fishing from a tiny industry to a big one. During the winter when Ocean City hibernates, except for this industry, about twenty fishing boats use it as a home port. The larger ones make week long trips to sea. In summer it is a port of call for as many as thirty Virginia and New Jersey

vessels. Fishermen take rock, cod, flounders, butterfish, spots, herring, porgies, hardhead, and trout.⁵⁴

The rock or striped bass is highly regarded both commercially and as prized sports fish. In 1943 a total of 2,575,643 pounds were taken commercially.⁵⁵ Rock Hall is an important center for rock fishing in the Bay. Shad fishing has suffered greatly, however. Maryland's shad harvest was once 7,000,000 pounds, and is now about 700,000 pounds.⁵⁶

NOTES, CHAPTER XLI

1. Frank Goodwin, *A Study of Personal and Social Organization: An Explorative Survey of the Eastern Shore of Maryland* (Philadelphia, 1944), p. 58.

2. *Ibid.*, p. 60.

3. *Ibid.*

4. *Ibid.*, p. 61.

5. Table taken from *Sixteenth Census of The United States* (Population), Second Series, Maryland, Table 23, pp. 47ff.

6. Includes nine classifications but none includes one quarter of one per cent of the total workers.

7. *Baltimore Sunday American*, May 22, 1949.

8. *Ibid.*, May 22, 29, 1949.

9. Goodwin, *op. cit.*, pp. 66-67. Based upon 16th Census of the United States (Agriculture: Maryland, first and second series).

10. A. B. Hamilton, *Comparative Census of Maryland Agriculture by Counties* (College Park, Maryland, University of Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station, Department of Agricultural Economics—Miscellaneous Publication No. 52, December, 1946). Compiled from 1945 and 1940 Census Reports.

11. *Ibid.*, p. 12.

12. *Ibid.*, p. 16.

13. *Ibid.*, p. 20.

14. *Ibid.*, p. 30.

15. *Ibid.*, p. 36.

16. *Ibid.*, p. 41.

17. *Ibid.*, p. 42.

18. *Ibid.*, p. 46.

19. *Ibid.*, p. 48.

20. *Farm Labor in Wartime: A Report of the Maryland Emergency Farm Labor Program, 1943-1947* (College Park, Maryland, University of Maryland Extension Service, January, 1948), p. 3.

21. *Ibid.*, p. 8.

22. *Ibid.*, pp. 10-11.

23. *Ibid.*, pp. 30-31.

24. *Baltimore Sun* (Magazine), September 18, 1949.

25. *Feddersburg Times*, August 8, 1947.

26. P. R. Poffenberger, J. R. Ives, and S. H. DeVault, *Status and Trend of Agricultural Co-operation in Maryland* (College Park, Maryland, The University of Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station, May, 1941), Bulletin No. 441, p. 278.

27. L. B. Bohanan and S. H. DeVault, *Farm Real Estate Trends in Maryland* (College Park, Maryland, The University of Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station, August, 1947), Bulletin No. A45, pp. 57, 60.

28. *Baltimore Evening Sun*, June 4, 1948.

29. *Baltimore Sunday American*, May 29, 1949.

30. *Ibid.* See also T. J. Davies, P. R. Poffenberger and S. H. DeVault, *The Broiler Industry in Maryland* (College Park, Maryland, The University of Maryland, Agricul-

tural Experiment Station, August, 1942), Bulletin No. A16. Federalsburg (Maryland) *Times*, August 8, 1947.

31. Federalsburg *Times*, May 6, 1949; Denton *Journal*, June 17, 1949; Baltimore *Evening Sun*, July 15, 1949.

32. Baltimore *Sun*, October 30, 1949.

33. Based on the 1945 revision of the Standard Industrial Classification sponsored by the Bureau of the Budget. Actually, only a few establishments are omitted, such as sawmills of the lumber industry cutting less than 200,000 board feet in 1947. Otherwise, reports were required from all establishments employing one or more persons at any time during the census year. *Census of Manufacturers, 1947* (MC119) (Washington, U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1949), pp. iii-iv. The table following is taken from *ibid.*, pp. 1-2.

34. *Ibid.*, pp. 8-9. The *Directory of Maryland Manufacturers* (June, 1949) gives the product, code, and approximate number of employees by city of Baltimore and counties. It was compiled from the industrial inspection records of the Commissioner of the Department of Labor and Industry. As pointed out in the foreword, "It is extremely difficult to attain absolute accuracy in a directory of this nature; since constant revision is necessary." Frequent supplements are therefore published. The classifications are based on the Standard Industrial Classification Code. Obviously the number of establishments would not necessarily be the same as cited in the U. S. Department of Commerce report, not only because of difference in date but also because of additional breakdown by the Maryland Department of Labor and Industry.

35. Baltimore *Sun*, October 13, 1948. No authoritative study of labor unionization on the Eastern Shore is known.

36. Federalsburg *Times*, January 14, 1949.

37. *Ibid.*, January 7, 1949.

38. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State* (New York, Oxford University Press, 1940), p. 73.

39. James C. Mullikin, *Baltimore Sunday American*, May 29, 1949.

40. Baltimore *Sun*, September 18, 1949.

41. *Ibid.*

42. John E. Clark, "The Chesapeake Bay and its Resources," Federalsburg *Times*, October 8, 1948, No. 6 in a series. Mr. Clark was former Chairman of the Maryland Board of Natural Resources.

43. Statement of John E. Clark.

44. Maryland Board of Natural Resources, *Fourth Annual Report*, 1947, p. 50.

45. *Ibid.*, p. 51.

46. Baltimore *Evening Sun*, February 5, 1948. Reprinted with permission.

47. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 73.

48. Baltimore *Evening Sun*, August 4, 1949.

49. *Evening Sun*, February 5, 1948; *ibid.*, November 7, 1949, interview with David H. Wallace, chairman of the Tidewater Fisheries Commission. See also Jack Yeaman Bryan, "The Vanishing Oyster," *The South Atlantic Quarterly*, XLVIII, No. 4 (October, 1949), pp. 546-556.

50. Maryland Board of Natural Resources, *Fourth Annual Report*, 1947, p. 51.

51. *Easton Star-Democrat*, August 11, 1944. Also, material supplied by George T. Harrison.

52. Baltimore *Evening Sun*, November 7, 1949.

53. *Maryland Manual*, 1948-1949, p. 82. See also "The Oyster Problem," Baltimore *Evening Sun*, December 13, 1948.

54. Baltimore *Sun* (Magazine).

55. John E. Clark, "The Chesapeake Bay and Its Resources," *Denton Journal*, September 17, 1948. This is one of a series of articles, printed in the county newspapers.

56. Statement of John E. Clark, former Chairman, Board of Natural Resources, July 9, 1948 to Seventh Annual Summer Conservation Conference.

CHAPTER XLII

Transportation

The importance of adequate means of transportation to the development of an area is well established. Without good transportation, commerce and trade are stymied; with it, agriculture, manufacturing, and related activities can thrive and bring wealth to a section. On the Eastern Shore the lack of good transportational connections with Baltimore and other Western Shore points has taken a large part of the Shore's trade northward to Wilmington and Philadelphia. In this development the Western Shore and Maryland as a whole have been the loser. From the point of view of Eastern Shoremen, their products have found an outlet. Economically, therefore, they have not suffered much if any. Culturally, socially, and in other respects, the Eastern Shore often seems closer to other regions than to the remainder of Maryland. Transportation problems may be credited with this.¹

I. CHESAPEAKE BAY BRIDGE

The most important development in transportation as 1950 arrives is what appears to be the final realization of a Chesapeake Bay Bridge. Barring unforeseen complications, the Western and Eastern Shores will soon be connected from a point near Sandy Point, in Anne Arundel County, to near Stevensville in Queen Anne's County. The project will cover 7.11 miles, although shore to shore distance is 4.33 miles. Dual highway connections are already under construction.

The importance of this project can hardly be overestimated. "To put it bluntly, this is the most prominent highway improvement on the Atlantic seaboard in almost a quarter of a century. . . . Not right away, but perhaps in five years the Bay bridge should return the Eastern Shore to Maryland. It should end the economic and cultural kidnapping wrought a century ago, when the Pennsylvania Railroad, reaching down the Delmarva Peninsula, tied the region to Wilmington and Philadelphia. Right away, the Bay bridge will take away from Baltimore, in compensation, a big share of through North-South traffic. . . . When Baltimore recovers this eastern legacy, the city's manufacturers, news and ideas will be able to penetrate the Eastern Shore, and fan out, at less expense and time than those from Northern cities. The Shore for its part will have a big new market for its agriculture. Dreams going back to the 1770s, and practical effort that began in 1907, will have become fact."²

The bridge was officially started on January 12, 1949. Governor Lane delivered a short address as officials gathered near the Sandy Point terminal, calling it "an historic occasion." Thanking the Maryland Congressional delegation for its assistance in securing the Federal legislation necessary to the bridge,

and mentioning other vital persons and groups, the Governor pointed with pride to the fact that the bridge would be constructed without "the investment of a single dollar of public tax funds." It would be financed "exclusively from tolls paid by the users of the State's primary bridge system."³ Governor Lane had been advised on October 6, 1948 that final approval of bridge plans had been given by Kenneth C. Royall, Secretary of the Army. Prior to this, in 1947, the Maryland General Assembly had passed the Bridge Enabling Act.

The Baltimore *Sun* commented editorially on the day Governor Lane gave the green signal:⁴

We know that in Colonial days, and even well into the Nineteenth Century, the Chesapeake Bay itself provided a means of easy communication that was the backbone of the growth and economy of the State. But first came the railroads and, after them, the highways and motor transportation that virtually rewrote the geography of the area. In the face of these new and swifter means of transit, the bay ceased to be a connecting link and, instead, became a formidable barrier to continued social and economic association. People of the Eastern Shore began to look more and more to Wilmington and Philadelphia instead of to Baltimore.

All trade and relationship between the two shores did not disappear. Nor, when the bridge is at last in being, can it be assumed that the Eastern Shore will cease entirely to divorce itself from the trade routes to the North? Nevertheless it is inconceivable that the substitution of the bridge for ferry boats, involving saving in both time and worry, will not revive and quicken the old traditional association that was so valuable.

It is altogether possible that the bridge may lead to an important shift in population. Certainly the areas of the Eastern Shore convenient to the bridge and within easy access to the metropolitan district will attract new residents. That invariably happens with every improvement of communication. How important the migration may be, it is impossible to estimate in advance.

The Eastern Shore is chiefly an agricultural community, and there are advantages to the farmer in getting his produce quickly to market. The bridge, therefore, should serve as a fresh stimulus to production. Possibly, too, the new proximity to the city's supply of labor may result in an increase in industry on the Shore. There is certain also to be a growth in the use of the respective recreational facilities of the Shore on the one hand and of the city on the other.

Whatever else it does, the bridge will bring about a change in local scenes, in habits and ways of thinking. This will be deplored by those who like things as they are. Progress, in whatever guise, always takes heavy toll of the quaint and the familiar. Yet, despite this loss, we can believe that this new meeting of East and West will be largely profitable to both.

Bonds to finance the bridge, to the extent of \$37,500,000, were sold in October, 1948, with additional bonds issued eleven months later for costs beyond the original estimates. The State Road Commission announced that construction work was to begin on October 1, 1949, and that the bridge would be completed about July 1, 1952, at a probable total cost of \$44,000,000. In 1918

the cost of a proposed bridge from Bay Shore to Tolchester was figured at \$10,000,000.⁵

The Bay Bridge has had its opponents, of course. One group sought unsuccessfully to block the project by filing an injunction against the State Roads Commission to force them to hold off awarding construction contracts until the cost of building a tunnel had been determined. The *Kent County News*, urging that the bridge be started, observed that "There are those who have opposed the bridge from the start in favor of Eastern Shore isolation and while they have a point of argument they have had their say and lost out."⁶

A great change will be rendered by the Bay Bridge. How different from the passage of the Bay made by The Duke de la Rochefoucault-Liancourt in 1796 with his horse from Kent Island to Annapolis! Sloops were used, but they could not "approach nearer to the shore than within half a mile. It was necessary to take my horse with me in a boat absolutely flat from whence he was hoisted into this little vessel. The awkwardness of the Negro sailors and of the captain in this affair, made us think that the horse and we should have lost our lives on this occasion." He estimated the distance across the bay at twelve miles. "The passage for a man and his horse cost two dollars . . . when there are many, the price . . . is only a dollar and a half. This little voyage is commonly performed in two hours: we went in less time [an hour and a quarter] because the weather was admirable."⁷ This was indeed a crude ferry system. Today The State Roads Commission operates one of the finest services in the country across the Bay from Sandy Point to Matapeake. The Claiborne-Annapolis Ferry Company was purchased by the State in June, 1941, and included everything used in connection with the operation of ferry service across Chesapeake Bay and also across Eastern Bay from Romancoke to Claiborne. The Chesapeake Bay Ferry System is self-supporting, deriving its revenues from ferry tolls. Great improvements have been made, including the relocation of the western terminal from Annapolis to Sandy Point, and the addition of excellent ferry slips. Passage averages between twenty minutes and half an hour and little time is lost if good connections are made. On the other hand, on busy weekends, cars and trucks often line up for great distances and wait for hours as four ferry boats operate on a shuttle basis in an attempt to meet the demand. Cost of passage for the average car with driver and one passenger is one dollar and seventy-nine cents each way.

Toll receipts of the Chesapeake Bay Ferry System have more than doubled since 1941. In its first fiscal year the system took in \$503,071.73 in tolls. War-time receipts after an initial drop to \$467,296.05, increased to \$610,462.66 in the fiscal period of the ferry system ending May 30, 1945. In the next three fiscal years revenues from passenger and vehicular traffic were \$810,116.49, \$1,047,242.98 and \$1,220,071.19, with a continuing increase indicated.⁸

2. HIGHWAYS

Great highway construction on the Eastern Shore is underway and planned eventually to provide road links which will permit traffic from New York to the south via the proposed Delaware River and Chesapeake Bay bridges and the new Potomac River Bridge in Southern Maryland, thus by-passing completely the cities of Philadelphia, Wilmington, Baltimore and Washington.⁹

The State Roads Commission on November 18, 1949, conducted newspapermen, largely from Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's, Talbot, and Caroline counties, on a tour of inspection of 21 projects in the highways improvement program over five northern 'Shore counties. These projects center chiefly about the dual lane "expressway," described above, intended to enable traffic to avoid Baltimore and Washington. It will tie in with the arterial highway system of Delaware at Warwick on the Maryland-Delaware line. From the Chesapeake Bay the highway will proceed from a point just east of Cox Creek, near Stevensville, to a point slightly east of Queenstown. Here there will be an elaborate inter-change to separate traffic moving northeast toward Delaware and that moving easterly for Eastern Shore points, including Ocean city. An official of the State Roads Commission described the Eastern Shore problem as follows: "First we must provide highspeed arterial highways on completely new rights of way. Second, we must improve stretches of existing highways that are now unsafe for high-speed traffic to recapture investments in those lengths of the highway still usable. It is in this latter phase of the work that we are concerned with elimination of sharp curves, cutting out reverse curves and improving sight distances."¹⁰

Three major projects of highway construction were slated in the 1949 program for the Eastern Shore. The first, indicated above, was the Stevensville to Queenstown project at a cost of \$3,000,000. The second was the 3.9-mile extension of the dual highway from Ocean City toward Berlin at an estimated cost of \$1,500,000, and the third was from Westover to Marion in Somerset County at a cost of \$1,386,617. Other projects for improvement were the 3.7-mile stretch from Cambridge to Mount Holly (estimated cost \$462,000), and a 6-mile section from Vienna to a point southeast of Mardella (estimated cost \$750,000).¹¹ Since the State Roads Commission's big drive for better state roads started in 1947, the mileage and total cost contracted for in the Eastern Shore counties was listed as follows on January 31, 1950:^{11a}

<i>County</i>	<i>Mileage</i>	<i>Total Cost</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Mileage</i>	<i>Total Cost</i>
Caroline	27.1	\$2,158,000	Talbot	21.2	\$2,777,000
Cecil	22.2	2,000,000	Wicomico	33.9	2,063,000
Dorchester	42.1	2,632,000	Worcester	48.0	2,902,000
Kent	39.7	1,625,000	Queen Anne's	73.6	8,400,000
Somerset	25.1	2,558,000			

In a speech at Salisbury in October, 1949, Governor Lane stated that during his Administration the state had built, reconstructed, or resurfaced 310 miles of road on the Eastern Shore. Also, 76 road projects, completed or underway, were costing \$22,333,710.¹² And it is a matter of fact that the first concerted drive to bring Maryland's general network of highways up to date has come with the Lane Administration. The present projects, both those underway and those planned, are the first to really bring great improvement to the Eastern Shore. Since 1908, however, when the State Roads Commission was organized and a system of arterial highways was commenced and developed to serve automobiles, trucks, and busses, the Eastern Shore has had fair connections over main highways with northern points. At the end of 1941 the county road mileage by surface types, for each Eastern Shore County, and its proportion of the total State and county mileage within the county was as shown in the chart on the following page:¹³

County	Low-type Surfaced Roads				High-type Surface	All Roads	County Percent of Total State and County Mileage
	Unsurfaced Roads Not Improved	Graded and Drained	Soil, Gravel and Stone Surface	Low-type Bituminous Surface			
Caroline	—	395	44	29	—	468	78.4
Cecil	41	229	131	40	4	445	71.7
Dorchester	65	79	312	20	—	476	76.5
Kent	10	82	128	12	—	232	63.5
Queen Anne's	—	21	367	3	—	391	74.6
Somerset	10	193	64	11	—	278	74.1
Talbot	14	7	220	48	—	289	76.8
Wicomico	38	295	75	91	—	499	79.8
Worcester	59	348	24	22	—	453	76.3
TOTALS FOR							
EASTERN SHORE	237	1,649	1,365	276	4	3,531	

Highway transportation on the upper Eastern Shore was impeded for a period of six years after July, 1942, when a tanker knocked down the draw-bridge across the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal at Chesapeake City. It was not until September 21, 1949, that a magnificent \$4,000,000 bridge was opened to replace the one destroyed, again allowing traffic on Route 213 to move without interruption. The bridge also links the two sections of Chesapeake City on either side of the canal. The new structure clears the water by 135 feet, allowing the largest freighters to pass underneath. The bridge replaced the ferry service operated since 1942 by the government at an annual cost of \$250,000. The span is part of the Army Engineers' program to improve the canal which cuts 300 miles from the water route between Baltimore and Philadelphia.¹⁴

3. BUS SERVICE AND TRUCKING

The Eastern Shore has a modern bus system of which it can be proud. After many years of only fair service by competing lines, the Red Star Motor Coaches, Incorporated, of Salisbury emerged in 1949 as the sole bus company operating on the Shore. This came about as the result of the purchase of the Eastern Shore Transit System. Two months later, in late November, the operations of the two companies were brought under one management to provide continuous bus service between Cape Charles and Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Washington.

The merger was designed to improve transportation facilities by providing long-distance scheduled service, interline express package service, group discounts and traffic expert service for charter-bus trips. The Eastern Shore Transit Company had operated a fleet of twelve busses between Salisbury and Cape Charles and between Salisbury and Chincoteague, via Snow Hill, Princess Anne, and Pocomoke City. The Red Star line now has routes throughout the Delmarva Peninsula, with Philadelphia as the northernmost terminal.¹⁵

Trucking lines operate extensively all over the Eastern Shore. Little difficulty is encountered in having goods trucked in or out of the area. Trucks are no less common than automobiles and most concerns do part or all of their own trucking. Busses and trucks are reserved adequate space on each ferry making the run across the Bay, while others at the present time go around the Bay by the Susquehanna River Bridge.

4. RAILROADS

Along with highways, the railroad has been an important and vital part of the transportation system of the Eastern Shore. The first project affecting the Eastern Shore was provided by an act of the General Assembly in 1835, known as the "Eight Million Dollar Bill" which apportioned one million dollars for the Eastern Shore Railroad.¹⁶ A line was to extend from Elkton down to Crisfield, touching Sharptown and Nanticoke. Although the survey was completed, much grading done, and even bridge abutments placed, tracks were never laid. The financial panic of 1837 left the bonds of the State of Maryland begging. A commission was even sent to Europe to attempt to dispose of the securities. Included was General Thomas Emory, an agriculturist of the planter

type, a slave holder and a breeder of blooded stock. He was actively engaged in the 1830s in promoting the internal improvement of the Eastern Shore, attempting with all his energy to induce the State to subscribe to the bonds of the Eastern Shore Railroad, of which he was president. Although it was not finished, it was the first step of the present system that traverses the Peninsula.¹⁷

The first attempt at securing a railroad having been unsuccessful, Eastern Shoremen again turned to the waterways and boat-building developed into an industry of no small proportions.

A quarter of a century passed before the first north and south railroad reached Delaware's southern boundary at what became known as Delmar. Inspired by Delaware's accomplishments, the Eastern Shore Railroad Company was organized and constructed a line from Delmar to Crisfield, with a spur track to Pocomoke City. Construction was interrupted by the Civil War but it was completed shortly thereafter. Ultimately by 1885, the line was extended southward to Cape Charles, with ferry and barge connections across the lower Chesapeake Bay to Norfolk and thence southward. This extension was constructed by the New York, Pennsylvania, and Norfolk Railroad Company which absorbed the Eastern Shore Railroad Company. The line was purchased by the Pennsylvania Railroad in 1908.

Many smaller lines had also been organized, such as the Baltimore, Chesapeake and Atlantic Railway—the B. C. & A.—which grew out of the Baltimore and Eastern Shore Railroad, organized by Shore people who had picked up the pieces of the old Wicomico and Pocomoke Railroad. The latter line had been projected from Salisbury to Berlin in 1868, connecting the two rivers, and eight years later had been extended to Ocean City. It really launched the seaside resort.¹⁸ Until 1896 the Wicomico and Pocomoke was the nearest approach to a trans-peninsula railroad. But while every river on the Shore was served with regular boat service to Baltimore, “feeder” lines serving the interior were needed. Subsequently, the Baltimore and Eastern Shore Railroad extended the Wicomico and Pocomoke to Claiborne and the first train service across the Eastern Shore was completed.

The B. C. & A.—dubbed “Black Cinders and Ashes”—, whose backers were closely affiliated with the Pennsylvania Railroad, purchased several steamboat lines shortly after its organization in 1898, including the Eastern Shore Steamboat Company, the Maryland Steamboat Company, and the Choptank River Line. For a few years the B. C. & A. was a flourishing system, but when the bay froze over in the winter of 1903-1904 and stopped boat traffic, and when the Baltimore fire of 1904 affected its business, the line went into voluntary receivership. A new company was formed in 1905—the Maryland, Delaware, and Virginia Railroad—which operated a line from Love Point to Lewes, Delaware. It absorbed the Queen Anne Railroad Company which had constructed a line from Love Point to Denton and which had plans (that never materialized) for extension to Chincoteague over a route laid out through Federalsburg, Sharptown, Salisbury, and Snow Hill. The Maryland, Delaware, and Virginia Railroad also bought and merged the two chief competitive steamboat lines of the B. C. & A. The directors of the latter had agreed to guarantee the M. D. & V's bonds.

At its peak the B. C. & A. and the M. D. & V. hauled long trains on the Claiborne-Ocean City line. Their thirty-six steamboats missed few tidewater points in Maryland and Virginia. Then came automobiles, trucks, and good roads

and the decline set in. Feeling the blow first was the steamboat business. One boat after another was taken off active duty in the area, including the *Maryland*, *Virginia*, *Tivoli*, *B. S. Ford*, *Kent*, *Enoch Pratt*, *Dorchester*, *Talbot*, *Tred Avon*, and *Cambridge* and others. "Some of these old boats were equipped for overnight runs from Baltimore to Shore points. They were elegant with gold-leafed saloons and plush carpets."¹⁹

In 1924 the M. D. & V. ceased to operate and four years later the B. C. & A. suffered foreclosure. It was bought by men connected with the Pennsylvania Railroad for \$1,000,000. A new short line was formed, the Baltimore and Eastern, which carried passengers until the hurricane washed away the trestle into Ocean City. Thus ended the old B. C. & A., which at one time was the only sure, fast way from Baltimore to Ocean City. Packed steamboats carried one to Claiborne where he transferred to the "Ocean City Flier," or the "Baltimore Flier" as it was also known. The latter covered the 87 miles to Ocean City on one occasion in two hours and ten minutes. Today the Baltimore and Eastern operates in a limited manner over a broken line, there being no bridges over the Sinepuxent Bay and the Nanticoke and Choptank rivers. Now down from 600 employees in its heyday to 56, it operates freight trains out of Delmar and Easton, carrying coal, feed, petroleum products, and general cargo. The coal traffic brought a profit of \$11,000 in 1948, the first in several decades. Coal goes to the great new generating plant of the Eastern Shore Public Service Company in Vienna. The Pennsylvania is now using diesel engines. When it took over in 1928 it put the torch to the antiquated equipment on hand, including 11 locomotives, 30 passenger cars and 78 box cars.²⁰

The B. C. & A. was the last large independent line on the Eastern Shore. Today, the Pennsylvania Railroad predominates.

5. STEAMBOATING

The year 1932 marked the end of the era of Chesapeake steamboating as the great depression forced the Baltimore and Virginia Steamboat Company into bankruptcy. And thus practically disappeared from the bay a type of boat that for over a century had operated from Baltimore to Philadelphia, Washington, and the Eastern and Western shores of Maryland and Virginia. The first steamer, the *Chesapeake*, had appeared on the bay in 1813 and from that time until 1932, the combination passenger and freight boats were the chief links between Baltimore and Tidewater Maryland and Virginia. The depression, making for the scarcity of freight, and the competition from trucks, busses, and power boats was too strong, and in 1932 the nine steamers of the company were put up for sale.

For those who want to recapture the Chesapeake's old days, including the steamboat era, a visit to the Mariners' Museum at Newport News, Virginia is a must. Established in 1930 by Archer M. Huntington in memory of his father, Collis P. Huntington, founder of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company, the Museum "has carried out its aim that in the assemblage of exhibits no period or locality would be stressed to the exclusion of others."²¹ It has one of the finest collections of figureheads in the world; more than 600 ship models of all types; marine oil paintings and prints; ship's gear; china and silverware; sailor's handiwork; navigation instruments; full-size canoes and

lifeboats; numerous other relics, and a marine library consisting of over 32,000 books and pamphlets on nautical subjects. In addition, there are countless maps, charts, plans, photographs, and log books which make the Museum a valuable place for marine research.²²



(Photos by Perry-Pix, Salisbury)

Airliners Serving Eastern Shore Communities

6. AIR TRANSPORTATION

Eastern Shoremen for some years have desired dependable air service with Baltimore, Washington, and points to the North. There have been numerous efforts to establish a service that would be satisfactory not only to Shoremen and others using the airlines, but to the Maryland Public Service Commission and the Civil Aeronautics Board.

In the summer of 1948 service was provided by All American Airways. On July 12 it had certified year-round routes from Baltimore to Salisbury with stops at Easton and Cambridge. Connections were available with Georgetown, Delaware, and other northern points such as Dover, Wilmington, Philadelphia, and Atlantic City. A line from Washington to Ocean City via Easton and Salisbury, and from Ocean City to Georgetown, Delaware, was certified for summer only. Applications with the Civil Aeronautics Board asked for additional summer service from Baltimore to either Rehoboth Beach or Georgetown, Delaware, on weekends and holidays.²³

The service which exists today is the result of many legal battles, delays, and spasmodic service. All American Airways won its last major battle in a struggle with Chesapeake Airways, Inc. The latter asked the Public Service Commission of Maryland in April, 1949 for permission to terminate its services between Baltimore, Easton, Salisbury, and Ocean City, the route now taken over by All American Airways. Chesapeake Airways, which began operations in 1946, claimed it never made a profit. In its petition to cease operations, this company asserted that an intra-state airline service between Baltimore and Eastern Shore points could never be conducted profitably unless mail contracts and interstate service could be added.²⁴ Its earlier applications to the Civil Aeronautics Board for authority to carry passengers to and from Washington to Eastern Shore and Delaware points was denied on February 19, 1948 after pending for two years. Consequently, stockholders of the company voted voluntary receivership on November 9, 1948.²⁵ From the time the company had been set up in April, 1946, until the decision of the Civil Aeronautics Board, Chesapeake Airways, Inc. had carried about 27,000 passengers between Baltimore and the Eastern Shore. It earned a name as a prompt and enterprising airline. Eastern Shore Airline took over Chesapeake Airways routes on January 15, 1949, but after a loss of about \$8,000 the company was granted authority by the Maryland Public Service Commission to suspend operations in May, 1949. Thus, All American Airways was authorized to begin interstate air service to the Shore.²⁶ This company had been operating airmail pickup service in the area for eight years. It was now in possession of the routes affecting the Eastern Shore, having won out in the struggle between the companies named as well as with the Colonial and Maryland Airways. Persistently the Civil Aeronautics Board has insisted upon compliance with two conditions: All American must show the adequacy of airports at a majority of the points named, and must not duplicate the mail pick-up routes it had held for eight years.²⁷

NOTES, CHAPTER XLII

1. Frank Goodwin, *Study of Personal and Social Organization*, p. 17.
2. James Bready in the *Baltimore Evening Sun*, November 4, 1948.
3. *Baltimore Sun*, January 13, 1949; *ibid.*, October 8, 1948. The State Roads Commission says that tolls on the Bridge will be approximately the same as rates now paid on the Chesapeake Bay Ferry System.
4. January 12, 1949.
5. *Denton Journal*, September 9, 1949; *Baltimore Evening Sun*, September 22, 1949.
6. August 26, 1949.
7. *Travels in North America, Canada, &c.* (4 vols., 1800), III, pp. 578-579.
8. *Baltimore Sun*, December 29, 1948.
9. *Baltimore News-Post*, September 2, 1949.
10. *Chestertown Enterprise*, November 22, 1949; *Denton Journal*, November 25, 1949.
11. *Baltimore Evening Sun*, June 16, 1949.
- 11a. *Salisbury (Md.) Times*, January 31, 1950.
12. *The Salisbury Times*, October 7, 1949.
13. William Paul Walker, "County Road Use and Finance in Maryland, *Bulletin* No. A19; University of Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station. (College Park, Maryland, December, 1942.) Based on data supplied by William F. Childs, Jr., Manager of Maryland Highway Planning Survey.

14. Baltimore *Evening Sun*, September 21, 1949. See the chapter on Cecil County for an account of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal.

15. Baltimore *Sun*, September 29, 1949; Baltimore *Evening Sun*, November 24, 1949; *Kent County News*, November 25, 1949.

16. The Baltimore and Ohio was to receive \$3,000,000; the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal \$3,000,000, and the Annapolis and Potomac and the Maryland Canal Companies \$500,000 each, upon their incorporation. See chapter by James C. Mullikin. Also, Charles J. Truitt, *Historic Salisbury Maryland* (New York, 1932).

17. See introduction to "The Diary of a Maryland Farmer Written on a Visit to England in 1837," being the diary of General Thomas. A copy of this diary was generously made available to the editor by Mr. W. T. Emory of Log Inn, near Annapolis, a lineal descendant of General Thomas.

18. Richard L. Moore in the *Baltimore Sun*, June 12, 1949.

19. *Ibid.*

20. *Ibid.*

21. Robert H. Burgess, *Baltimore Sun*, July 31, 1949. Mr. Burgess is on the staff of the Mariners' Museum.

22. *Ibid.*

23. Baltimore *Evening Sun*, July 12, 1949.

24. Baltimore *Sun*, April 29, 1949.

25. Federalsburg *Times*, November 26, 1948.

26. Baltimore *Evening Sun*, November 29, 1948; *ibid.*, January 6, 1949; *ibid.*, May 12, 1949.

27. Baltimore *Evening Sun*, January 6, 1949.

CHAPTER XLIII

Prominent Eastern Shoremen in Public Life

Eastern Shoremen who have filled important public offices are listed below with the necessary explanatory facts. Members of the Continental Congress, United States Senators, Representatives in Congress, Judges of the Maryland Circuit Court of Appeals, Treasurers of the Eastern Shore, Presidents of the Maryland Senate, and Speakers of the House of Delegates are included. Special attention is also given to the three Eastern Shoremen of modern times—Judge T. Alan Goldsborough, former United States Senator George L. Radcliffe, and Representative Edward T. Miller.

1. MEMBERS OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

The following men from the Eastern Shore served in the Continental Congress and under the Articles of Confederation during the years indicated:¹

<i>Name</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Years Served</i>
Robert Alexander	Cecil	1775-1776
William Carmichael	Queen Anne's	1778-1780
Samuel Chase	Somerset	1774-1778, 1784, 1785
Robert Goldsborough	Dorchester	1774-1775
William Harrison	Talbot	1785-1787
William Hemsley	Queen Anne's	1782-1784
John Henry	Dorchester	1778-1781, 1784-1787
William Hindman	Dorchester	1784-1788
Edward Lloyd	Talbot	1783-1784
Luther Martin	Queen Anne's, Somerset	1784-1785
William Paca	Queen Anne's	1774-1779
Nathaniel Ramsey	Cecil	1785-1787
Benjamin Rumsey	Cecil	1776-1778
Gustavus Scott	Dorchester	1784-1785
Joshua Seney	Queen Anne's	1787-1788
Matthew Tilghman	Queen Anne's	1774-1777
Turbutt Wright	Queen Anne's	1781-1782

2. MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE²

Except when otherwise indicated, the counties in which Senators were born have been listed. Some took up residence in other counties, temporarily or permanently, and there will always be rival claims for that reason.

<i>Name</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Years in Senate</i>
1. John Henry	Dorchester	1789-1797
2. James Lloyd	Kent	1797-1800
3. William Hindman	Dorchester	1800-1801
4. Robert Wright	Queen Anne's	1801-1806
5. Philip Reed	Kent	1806-1813
6. Robert H. Goldsborough	Talbot	1813-1819, 1835-1836
7. Edward Lloyd	Talbot	1819-1826
8. Ezekiel Forman Chambers	Kent	1826-1834
9. John Selby Spence	Worcester	1836-1840
10. John Leeds Kerr*	Talbot	1841-1843
11. James Alfred Pearce**	Kent	1843-1862
12. Thomas Holliday Hicks	Dorchester	1862-1865
13. John A. J. Creswell	Cecil	1865-1867
14. George Vickers	Kent	1868-1873
15. George Robertson Dennis	Somerset	1873-1879
16. James Black Groome	Cecil	1879-1885
17. Ephraim King Wilson	Worcester	1885-1891
18. Charles Hopper Gibson	Queen Anne's	1891-1897
19. John Walter Smith	Worcester	1908-1921
20. William Purnell Jackson	Wicomico	1912-1914
21. Joseph Irvin France***	Cecil	1917-1923
22. Phillips Lee Goldsborough	Somerset, Dorchester	1929-1935
23. George L. Radcliffe	Dorchester	1935-1947

* Born in Anne Arundel, living in Easton when elected to U. S. Senate.

** Born in Virginia, resident of Kent from 1828 until death in 1862.

*** Born in Missouri; practised medicine in Baltimore; resident of Cecil.

The Eastern Shore has furnished twenty-three or approximately one-half of the forty-seven United States Senators from Maryland, starting with John Henry in 1789 and ending with George L. Radcliffe, whose second term expired in 1947. Kent and Dorchester counties at five each, have the honor of furnishing the greatest number. From Kent came James Lloyd, Philip Reed, Ezekiel Forman Chambers, James Alfred Pearce (born in Virginia, lived one year in Dorchester, but was a resident of Kent County from the age of 24 onward), and George Vickers. Dorchester gave John Henry, William Hindman (though he was living in Talbot when elected), Thomas H. Hicks, Phillips Lee Goldsborough, and George L. Radcliffe. Three United States Senators came from Talbot: Robert H. Goldsborough, Edward Lloyd, and John Leeds Kerr (though a native of Anne Arundel County). John Selby Spence, Ephraim King Wilson, and John Walter Smith were from Worcester County, while John A. J. Creswell, John Black Groome, and Joseph I. France (native of Missouri), were from Cecil County. Two came from Queen Anne's: Robert Wright (also claimed by Kent County where he practiced law until the Revolution, and which he represented in the General Assembly in 1786) and Charles H. Gibson. George R. Dennis hailed from Somerset County and William Purnell Jackson was a native of Wicomico County.

Over half of these men were lawyers, several were physicians, and others were engaged in at least part-time planting, lumbering, and banking. Most held at one time or another political positions, usually starting on the county level.

United States Senators from the Eastern Shore have been predominantly of the Democratic party, twelve claiming such affiliation. Five have been Republicans; two Whigs; one a Whig and then a Democrat; one a Federalist and then a Whig, and two are uncertain.

GEORGE L. RADCLIFFE

The most recent Eastern Shore member of the United States Senate is George L. Radcliffe. Born at Lloyds in Dorchester County on August 22, 1877, he is the son of the late John Anthony LeCompte and Sophie D. (Travers) Radcliffe. He was graduated from the Cambridge, Maryland, Seminary in 1893, received his Bachelor of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy degrees from Johns Hopkins, and his Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Maryland. Both Washington College and the University of Maryland have conferred upon him the honorary Doctor of Laws degree.

Senator Radcliffe married Miss Mary McKim Marriott in 1906 and they have one son, George Marriott Radcliffe. Following a short teaching career at Cambridge Seminary (where he served as Principal) and Baltimore City College, Radcliffe was admitted to the Maryland Bar in 1903. He became attorney for the American Bonding Company, served as vice president from 1906 to 1914, and as president from 1914 to 1930. He then became chairman of the executive committee of the Fidelity and Deposit Company and a member of the executive committee and board of directors of the Fidelity Trust Company. He was a member of the Baltimore board, Liquor License Commission, from 1916 to 1919; Maryland's Secretary of State in 1919-1920; and a regional adviser in 1933-1934 of the Public Works Administration.

This prominent Eastern Shoreman was a member of the Maryland State Council of Defense during the World War and a special commissioner to organize war-work records of Maryland in 1919 and in 1942. He has repeatedly served as Chairman of the Maryland Branch of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. He was Chairman of the Maryland Democratic Campaign Committee in 1932, 1936, and later years. He is the author of *Governor Hicks of Maryland and the Civil War* (1902).

On November 6, 1934, he was elected to the United States Senate over his opponent, Joseph I. France, and was re-elected in 1940, receiving 394,239 votes to 203,192 for Harry W. Nice, Republican.

Senator Radcliffe served with distinction for twelve years in the United States Senate and commands the respect of all Marylanders. His training in history and research has given him special interest in the record of his native Eastern Shore and of Maryland in general. For many years he has served as President of the Maryland Historical Society.³

3. REPRESENTATIVES IN THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS⁴

Representing the Eastern Shore in the United States House of Representatives have been the following:

<i>Name</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Years Served</i>
1. Joshua Seney	Queen Anne's	1789-1792
2. George Gale	Somerset	1789-1791
3. William Hindman	Dorchester	1793-1799

<i>Name</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Years Served</i>
4. William Vans Murray	Dorchester	1791-1797
5. John Dennis	Worcester	1797-1805
6. William Matthews	Cecil	1797-1799
7. Joseph Hopper Nicholson	Kent	1799-1806
8. Charles Goldsborough	Dorchester	1805-1817
9. Edward Lloyd	Talbot	1806-1809
10. John Brown	Queen Anne's	1809-1810
11. Robert Wright	Queen Anne's	1810-1817, 1821-1823
12. Thomas Bayly	Somerset	1817-1823
13. Thomas Culbreth	Caroline	1817-1821
14. Philip Reed	Kent	1817-1819, 1822-1823
15. Jeremiah Cosden		1821-1822
16. William Hayward, Jr.	Talbot	1823-1825
17. George Edward Mitchell	Cecil	1823-1827, 1829-1832
18. John Selby Spence	Worcester	1823-1825, 1831-1833
19. John Leeds Kerr	Talbot	1825-1829, 1831-1833
20. Robert Nicols Martin	Dorchester	1825-1827
21. Levin Gale	Cecil	1827-1829
22. Ephraim King Wilson	Worcester	1827-1831
23. Richard Spencer	Talbot	1829-1831
24. Charles S. Sewall	Queen Anne's	1832-1833, 1843
25. Richard B. Carmichael	Queen Anne's	1833-1835
26. Littleton Purnell Dennis	Worcester	1833-1834
27. John Nevett Steele	Dorchester	1834-1837
28. James Alfred Pearce	Kent	1835-1839, 1841-1843
29. Phillip Francis Thomas	Talbot	1839-1841, 1875-1877
30. Isaac Dashiell Jones	Somerset	1841-1843
31. James Wray Williams	Harford	1841-1842
32. Thomas Ara Spence	Worcester	1843-1845
33. Jacob A. Preston	Harford	1843-1845
34. Edward Henry Carroll Long	Somerset	1845-1847
35. Albert Constable	Cecil	1845-1847
36. John Woodland Crisfield	Somerset	1847-1849, 1861-1863
37. John Bozman Kerr	Talbot	1849-1851
38. Joseph Stewart Cottman	Somerset	1851-1853
39. Alexander Evans	Cecil	1847-1853
40. John Rankin Franklin	Worcester	1853-1855
41. James Augustus Stewart	Dorchester	1855-1861
42. James Barroll Ricaud	Kent	1855-1859
43. Edwin Hanson Webster	Harford	1859-1865
44. John A. J. Creswell	Cecil	1863-1865
45. Hiram McCullough	Cecil	1865-1869
46. Samuel Hambleton	Talbot	1869-1873
47. Ephraim King Wilson	Worcester	1873-1875
48. Daniel Maynadier Henry	Dorchester	1877-1881
49. George Washington Covington	Worcester	1881-1885
50. Charles Hopper Gibson	Queen Anne's	1885-1891
51. Henry Page	Somerset	1891-1892
52. John Brewer Brown	Queen Anne's	1892-1893

<i>Name</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Years Served</i>
53. Robert Franklin Bratton	Wicomico	1893-1894
54. Winder Laird Henry	Dorchester	1894-1895
55. Joshua Weldon Miles	Somerset	1895-1897
56. Isaac Ambrose Barber	Talbot	1897-1899
57. John Walter Smith	Worcester	1899-1900
58. Josiah Leeds Kerr	Dorchester	1900-1901
59. William Humphreys Jackson	Wicomico	1901-1905, 1907-1909
60. Thomas Alexander Smith	Caroline	1905-1907
61. Thomas Harry Covington	Talbot	1909-1914
62. Jesse Dashiell Price	Wicomico	1914-1919
63. Thomas Alan Goldsborough	Caroline	1921-1939
64. David J. Ward	Wicomico	1939-1945
65. Dudley G. Roe	Queen Anne's	1945-1947
66. Edward Tylor Miller	Talbot	1947-

The Eastern Shore of Maryland has been represented by a total of sixty-six representatives in Congress, dating from the First Congress down to Representative Edward T. Miller's incumbency. These representatives have been surprisingly well distributed among the counties. As in the determination of residences of Governors and United States Senators, there is some difficulty in properly crediting men to the right county. Wicomico, formed in 1867, always suffers in such calculations. Some who represented what is now Wicomico were, before 1867, credited to Worcester or Somerset counties, from which Wicomico was created. In the case of representatives, it will be noted that some are listed as residents of Harford County, because at one time the Second Congressional District included Kent and Cecil counties in addition to parts of Baltimore, Carroll and Harford counties. The First Congressional District then included the six lower (prior to creation of Wicomico) Eastern Shore counties. Some members of the House of Representatives lived in one county and practiced law in another. It is also difficult to locate a man born in one county and elected while a resident of another. Where the fact could be ascertained, he has been credited to the county in which he lived at the time of election.

Tabulations show that United States Representatives came from the counties as follows:

Talbot	10	Wicomico	4
Worcester	9	Kent	4
Dorchester	9	Caroline	3
Queen Anne's	8	Harford	3
Somerset	8	Unknown	1
Cecil	7		

T. ALAN GOLDSBOROUGH

Although Caroline County has furnished only three representatives, two of whom (Thomas Culbreth and Thomas Alexander Smith) were natives of Delaware, it has the distinction of being the birthplace and residence of Judge T. Alan Goldsborough, who served for eighteen years in the House of Representatives. As a Federal Judge of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, he ranks as the Eastern Shore's leading citizen of today.

Born at Greensboro in Caroline County on September 16, 1877, Golds-

borough was taken to Amoy, China, at the age of two by his father who was a Consul. Two years later he was brought back to his grandfather, a country doctor, who reared him and had much influence over him in his youth and later life.⁵ After attendance at the public schools Goldsborough entered Washington College. At the end of his course he not only was tied for first honors in the graduating class of 1899, but had won wide fame as a baseball player. A professional baseball career was his for the asking, but he chose law and completed the three-year University of Maryland course in two years. Establishing practice at Denton, the county seat, he was successful at once and within three years was elected to his first public office—State's Attorney for Caroline County in 1904. Goldsborough had promised to stop the selling of liquor in the county, since technically the county was dry. He did so, although it was necessary to have thirty-eight sellers indicted. Then, he did not prosecute, holding the indictments in reserve should he need them. He served just one term, returning to private practice in 1908. The following year he married Miss Laura Hill.

Goldsborough became a leading trial lawyer on the Eastern Shore and in Maryland. He took his first case to the United States Supreme Court on April 15, 1919 and won it in a notable decision that broke the validity of the old common law "fellow servant" doctrine and expanded the interstate commerce clause of the Constitution of the United States.⁶

Now possessing an enviable reputation, political leaders sought him and he agreed to run for Congress from the Eastern Shore in 1920. He defeated his Democratic primary rival, H. W. Robinson, by a slim plurality of 77 votes, but proceeded to trounce his Republican foe, William M. Andrews, the incumbent, by a vote of 28,049 to 25,818. "It was said when he was elected to Congress in 1920 that he had tried more cases than any other lawyer in Maryland at his age."⁷

Upon taking his seat in Congress, Goldsborough was informed by the Democratic minority leader, Claude Kitchin, that he was the only Democrat in the United States to have defeated a Republican incumbent in the 1920 election. He was thus offered a place on the powerful House Ways and Means Committee, but asked for, and was granted, a place on the Banking and Currency Committee. He made his first speech on the floor of the House in opposition to the Fordney-McCumber high protective tariff bill, announcing that the Republicans in sponsoring this measure were "drunk with the opportunity of reaction" and were in a "wild frenzy again to enthrone privilege where it had long reigned in comfort." Goldsborough stated that the Republicans were keeping their campaign promise. "Glorious days of wartime loot would be returned for the speculators, profiteers, slackers and gougers."⁸

After the bill became law, Goldsborough attacked its cotton duties in a speech in the House on June 27, 1922. He said:

It is estimated that Section 905A alone of the tariff, this cynical "joker" inserted at the suggestion of the lobbyist Lippert will filch from the American people the colossal sum of 750 million dollars annually, an average of \$37.50 from every family in the land; and as there are more poor people than any other class the backs of the poor will be bowed under the great part of this awful burden, while the golden flood wrung from the people is poured into the laps of a few rich cotton manufacturers; I say to them that they are depriving the poor of the simplest necessities of life; I say

to them also that their wives and their daughters when they cover themselves with the gowns of silk have not been clothed by the worm alone but their raiment has been spun from the mouths of babes.⁹

The *New York Times* on March 7, 1922, had placed the cost of this cotton tariff to the American consumers at \$800,000,000 annually, so apparently Goldsborough pretty well knew whereof he spoke. Goldsborough was social-minded, having seen the poor while growing up and never forgetting his desire to help make life better for them. Since his Washington College days he had been particularly interested in the monetary structure of the nation and became a thorough student of the same.¹⁰

Goldsborough continued to win re-election at two year intervals through 1938, usually by very comfortable margins. In 1928 he had his narrowest victory, getting past his Republican opponent by the small plurality margin of 692 votes. He had been inactive for nearly a year from illness due to overwork.

In 1929 he fought the extension of branch banking, stating that the rural banks opposed it because the central bank would be able to carry the funds of the rural section out of the locality where the branch was situated and use the money for the central office's needs. In 1931 Goldsborough was one of about 40 members of Congress called to the White House for consultation on the national economic crisis. Out of the meeting came the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

Serving under a Democratic Administration for the first time with the advent of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Goldsborough hoped to have greater success in pushing through legislation to restore and maintain the purchasing power of the dollar. His bill (HR 11499) was intended to help the emergency by raising the general commodity prices to the average level between 1921 and 1929. This was to alleviate the pressure of the price level on debtors and at the same time raise the price level in order to stop the impending tide of general business bankruptcy. To maintain the purchasing power of the dollar on a parity with the internal commodity price level was his basic purpose. The bill passed the House by a vote of 289 to 60, but in the Senate it was mutilated and never voted upon in its original form.

Goldsborough also was the chief backer of Representative Steagall of Alabama in his successful fight to create the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Meanwhile he continued his fight to create a currency system "in the interest of the 128 million people in the United States, not controlled, dominated or influenced by any class and so managed that we can get our tremendous potential production to the people."¹¹ He unsuccessfully proposed an amendment to the Banking Act of 1935 to achieve his objective and then presented a bill in 1937 which proposed to lift the burden of taxation, maintain low retail prices in relation to higher wages, and balance the budget—an all encompassing bill. "It was to create a stabilization fund to be managed by a federal credit commission. This commission would determine through index services, similar to those used by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, actual production and potential production of wanted goods and services. From these figures, discount rates were to be established on the prices of goods purchased by the ultimate consumer. The established discounts were to be implemented financially by an inter-bank currency controlled by the Federal Credit Commission."¹² This bill was defeated in the House, but this set-back along with others did

not indicate that Goldsborough was "a failure in Congress. Rather his record of proposed monetary reform stands as a guidepost to political thinkers and doers of the future."¹³

In late summer of 1938, President Roosevelt asked Goldsborough to invite him to speak at Denton. In this election year, Goldsborough was the running mate of United States Senator Millard E. Tydings and the awkwardness of the situation is clear, for Roosevelt was urging the defeat of Tydings. The Labor Day speech was made before a great crowd at Denton, with Goldsborough entertaining the President before and after his speech. Many resented Goldsborough's part in this "invasion" by the President. But he carried the Shore without much of a struggle. His record on behalf of the people had been good, including the securing of some important public works for the Shore.¹⁴ Goldsborough had a reputation for a friendly, sincere interest in his constituents. After the damaging storm of 1933, he induced Federal Relief Administrator Harry Hopkins to replace destroyed boats and equipment of destitute Eastern Shore fishermen. Goldsborough was always glad to see Eastern Shoremen in Washington and they could sense it. After so many years in Congress people from the Shore came to know him as a good neighbor and his pluralities increased steadily except for the 1928 election.¹⁵

Goldsborough voted for the National Industrial Recovery Act, the Tennessee Valley Authority, and the Civilian Conservation Corps. He was a strong supporter of the Wagner Act, the Norris-LaGuardia Act, and most of the economic and social legislation of the New Deal period. The *Denton Journal*, referring to Goldsborough's bill that secured a federal project to connect the eastern shore of the Pocomoke River with the Chesapeake Bay, termed it "the biggest event in his Congressional career."¹⁶

Goldsborough's fine record in Congress was recognized in December, 1938, when President Roosevelt nominated him to the much sought after bench of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. His appointment was urged by Vice President John N. Garner, Sumner Welles, and Sam Rayburn, Speaker of the House, among others. It was a well deserved honor and one for which Goldsborough's distinguished career in law and the national Congress had well fitted him. High tribute was paid him by his fellow representatives upon his departure from their midst.¹⁷ Goldsborough maintained his active interest in national affairs, particularly in economic problems to which he had devoted so much time in Congress. After the outbreak of hostilities in 1941 and by the end of World War II, he had studied over two hundred works from Adam Smith to contemporary socio-economic writers. His aim was to prepare himself for the economic and social problems which follow all wars. His court was not only a Federal Court, but also had jurisdiction over purely local crimes as a result of the relationship of District of Columbia affairs with the Federal government. Though he has handled hundreds of cases, signed thousands of court orders, and heard hundreds of oral motions, he won his chief fame in connection with the fine imposed upon John L. Lewis and his union for civil and criminal contempt in not obeying the Court's restraining order that would have kept the miners at work. As interesting as these cases are, and as well as Goldsborough has conducted them, they affect the Eastern Shore only indirectly and space does not permit analysis of them.

His humanistic judicial philosophy has been most effectively summed up in a decision he handed down in 1948. He said:

Justice is like a hotel with a side entrance for employees and a front entrance for guests. It is a strict rule for the employees not to use the front entrance. But then the hotel catches fire and the side entrance is blocked. The employees escape by the front entrance. Wouldn't it be ridiculous to say that the employees break the rules by going out the front door?¹⁸

The Eastern Shore is rightfully proud of Judge Goldsborough. And typically, he is proud of the Shore.

EDWARD T. MILLER

Edward T. Miller, current Representative in Congress from the First Congressional District, has been an active Republican for many years. He was referee in bankruptcy on the Eastern Shore for eighteen years, and was judge of the Talbot County Juvenile Court from 1934 to 1938. He is a former city attorney for Easton.

Reared in Talbot County, Miller is a graduate of Yale University. He left the George Washington University Law School to become a second lieutenant of infantry in World War I. He went overseas as an infantry company commander and served in the Argonne, on the Somme and at St. Mihiel. In World War II, he served as a colonel, being ordered to extended active duty early in 1942. After service in Africa and India, he was sent to China and served as an infantry colonel with Chinese combat forces. For his contribution to the Chinese war effort he was named a "major general" in the Chinese Army. Although he has twice fought in active combat theaters in two wars, he is a member of the Society of Friends.¹⁹ He is also a strong supporter of the World Federalist Movement, having been a co-sponsor of the House United World Federalist Resolution.

Colonel Miller is described as a party man. He will stand or fall with the G. O. P., he says, on all things except those in which he sees the party position clearly endangering, first, the welfare of his own constituents and, second, the well-being of the United States as a whole. "Down on our own Eastern Shore," he was reported as saying, "too much power concentrated in one party has brought sloppy government in many instances. I want to build up the Republican party primarily for the good of the people in my district, secondarily so that Representative Ted Miller will stand a chance for re-election."²⁰

Representative Miller was elected to the Eightieth Congress in 1946 as the Republicans gained control of Congress for the first time since 1930. He was re-elected in 1948 to the Eighty-First Congress, defeating S. Scott Beck, Jr., of Chestertown. Miller asked for and received appointment to the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee when he learned there was no vacancy on his first choice, the Committee on the Armed Services. He figured he could do more for his constituents from a vantage seat on that group than any other. He makes few speeches on the floor, but from speeches this writer has heard him make at Washington College before the Political Forum, and elsewhere, it is evident he keeps fully abreast of national and world affairs and is a sincere thinker. He is diligent in serving his constituents.

A partial list of matters looked into and expedited by Mr. Miller on behalf of his constituents includes: Eastern Shore conservation interests; flood control projects; airmail for the Eastern Shore; river and harbor projects;

protests against government release of storage sweet potatoes which would seriously affect the seed potatoes held by Eastern Shore growers; seeking additional air routes to the Eastern Shore; the heating oil shortage; urging greater use of canned fish in the foreign-relief program; securing assistance of Coast Guard officials for ice-bound fishing boats; appearing before the Interstate Commerce Commission on behalf of trucking interests seeking transportation in interstate commerce of certain vegetables washed clean and packed in cellophane bags; opposing Navy explosive tests in the Chesapeake Bay because of damage to fish; voting for extension of Reciprocal Trade Agreements; opposing increased postal rates on second, third, and fourth class mail; opposing rent control.

Representative Miller has been strongly in support of legislation to strengthen national defense, with particular interest in bills designed to buttress the civilian components of the armed forces. He also has urged the use of surplus agricultural and sea-food products in foreign relief. He supported increased subsistence allowance for veterans in school and increased on-the-job training ceilings for veterans. During the Eightieth Congress he was successful in obtaining authorizations for four harbor and river projects, namely: Rock Hall Harbor, Cambridge Harbor, Chester River and Back-Honga River-Tar Bay. He also had authorized complete navigation survey reports on Ocean City Harbor and Inlet and Sinepuxent Bay,²¹ Twitch Cove and Big Thoroughfare River, Smith Island, and others.

4. GOVERNORS²²

The following governors of Maryland have come from the Eastern Shore:

<i>Name</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Years Served</i>
<i>Elected Under the Constitution of 1777 by the Legislature for One Year</i>		
1. William Paca	Queen Anne's	1782-1785
2. William Smallwood	Kent	1785-1788
3. John Henry	Dorchester	1797-1798
4. Robert Wright	Queen Anne's	1806-1809
5. Edward Lloyd	Talbot	1809-1811
6. Levin Winder	Somerset	1812-1816
7. Charles Goldsborough	Dorchester	1818-1819
8. Samuel Stevens, Jr.	Talbot	1822-1826
9. Daniel Martin	Talbot	1828-1830, 1831
10. Thomas King Carroll	Somerset	1830-1831
11. Thomas Ward Veazey	Cecil	1836-1839
<i>Elected Under the Amended Constitution of 1838 by the People for Three Years</i>		
12. William Grason	Queen Anne's	1839-1842
13. Philip Francis Thomas	Talbot	1848-1851
<i>Elected Under the Constitution of 1851 by the People for Four Years</i>		
14. Thomas Holliday Hicks	Dorchester	1858-1862
<i>Elected Under the Constitution of 1867 by the People for Four Years</i>		
15. James Black Groome (partial term)	Cecil	1874-1876
16. Henry Lloyd (partial term)	Dorchester	1885-1888

<i>Name</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Years Served</i>
17. Elihu Emory Jackson	Wicomico	1888-1892
18. John Walter Smith	Worcester	1900-1904
19. Austin Lane Crothers	Cecil	1908-1912
20. Phillips Lee Goldsborough	Dorchester	1912-1916
21. Emerson C. Harrington	Dorchester	1916-1920

During the 174 years since the first Governor of Maryland was chosen by other than the Proprietary or Crown, a total of fifty-seven governors (including the incumbent, William Preston Lane) have served. Of these, twenty-one or slightly over one-third have been Eastern Shoremen. One, William Paca, was not a native of the Shore, and another, William Smallwood, though a native, was not long a resident. The remainder, however, called the Eastern Shore home during their entire lives. Eastern Shoremen have served during 63 of the 174 years, or nearly one-third of the time. Although an amendment to the Constitution in 1838 provided that the governorship should rotate among three gubernatorial districts, one of which was the Eastern Shore, a plan which was followed until 1886, the general ration of Eastern Shore governors to those from other parts of the state was not affected.

It would appear therefore, that Eastern Shoremen have more than held their own insofar as the governorship of the State is concerned.

Seven governors from the Eastern Shore (John Henry, Robert Wright, Edward Lloyd, Thomas H. Hicks, James B. Groome, John W. Smith, and Phillips Lee Goldsborough) also served Maryland as United States Senators, while five (Edward Lloyd, Robert Wright, Charles Goldsborough, Philip Francis Thomas and John W. Smith) served in the United States House of Representatives. Three governors (Robert Wright, Edward Lloyd, and John Walter Smith) also served in both the United States Senate and House of Representatives.

The distribution of governors on the Eastern Shore by counties is of interest. Dorchester leads with six (John Henry, Charles Goldsborough, Thomas Hicks, Henry Lloyd, Phillips Lee Goldsborough, and Emerson C. Harrington); Talbot ranks second with four (Edward Lloyd, Samuel Stevens, Jr., Daniel Martin, and Philip Francis Thomas); Cecil furnished Thomas Ward Veazey, James Black Groome, and Austin L. Crothers; Queen Anne's gave Robert Wright, William Grason, and the adopted William Paca; Somerset was the home of Levin Winder and Thomas King Carroll; Worcester claimed John Walter Smith and Wicomico gave Elihu Emory Jackson. The birth of William Smallwood in Kent County places Kent only a shade ahead of Caroline County which has furnished no governors.

5. JUDGES OF THE COURT OF APPEALS OF MARYLAND

A total of ninety-five Marylanders have served on the Maryland Court of Appeals. Twenty-five of these have come from the Eastern Shore and are listed below:²³

<i>Name</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Years</i>
James Murray	Dorchester	1778-1784
Littleton Dennis	Somerset	1801-1806
James Tilghman	Queen Anne's	1806-1809
William Polk	Somerset	1806-1812

<i>Name</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Years Served</i>
Richard Tilghman Earle	Queen Anne's	1809-1834
John Done	Worcester	1812-1814
William Bond Martin	Dorchester	1814-1835
Ezekiel Forman Chambers	Kent	1834-1851
Ara Spence	Worcester	1835-1851
John Bowers Eccleston	Kent	1851-1860
Brice John Goldsborough	Dorchester	1860-1867
James Augustus Stewart	Dorchester	1867-1879
John Mitchell Robinson (Chief Judge)	Queen Anne's	1867-1896
Levin Thomas Handy Irving	Somerset	1879-1892
Henry Page	Somerset	1892-1908
George Mitchell Russum	Caroline	1896-1897
James Alfred Pearce	Kent	1897-1912
W. Laird Henry	Dorchester	1908-1909
John R. Pattison	Dorchester	1909-1934
Albert Constable	Cecil	1912-1919
William H. Adkins	Talbot	1919-1934
Benjamin A. Johnson	Wicomico	1934-1943
William Mason Shehan	Talbot	1934-1940
Stephen R. Collins	Kent	1940-
Levin C. Bailey	Wicomico	1943-1944

6. PRESIDENTS OF THE STATE SENATE FROM THE EASTERN SHORE²⁴

Matthew Tilghman	Talbot	1783
William Perry	Talbot	1793
Stephen Lowry	Queen Anne's	1809
William Spencer	Kent	1816
Edward Lloyd	Talbot	1826
William Williams	Somerset	1844
Edward Lloyd	Talbot	1853
Henry H. Goldsborough	Talbot	1861
Daniel Fields	Caroline	1876
Edward Lloyd	Talbot	1878
Henry Lloyd	Dorchester	1884
Robert F. Bratton	Somerset	1890
Edward Lloyd	Talbot	1892
John Walter Smith	Worcester	1894
Joseph B. Seth	Talbot	1906
Jesse D. Price	Wicomico	1912
Arthur H. Brice	Kent	1939

7. SPEAKERS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES²⁵

Nicholas Thomas	Talbot	1777
William Bruff	Queen Anne's	1781
Levin Winder	Somerset	1791
Matthew Tilghman	Kent	1794

<i>Name</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Years Served</i>
Charles Frazier	Queen Anne's	1801
Charles Frazier	Queen Anne's	1804
Levin Winder	Somerset	1808
James Brown	Queen Anne's	1818
Thomas Wright	Queen Anne's	1833
William S. Waters	Somerset	1845
John R. Franklin	Worcester	1849
Thomas H. Kemp	Caroline	1864
Jesse K. Hines	Kent	1874
Hiram McCullough	Cecil	1880
Joseph B. Seth	Talbot	1886
George M. Upshur	Worcester	1888
Lloyd Wilkinson	Worcester	1900
Adam Peeples	Cecil	1910

8. TREASURERS OF THE EASTERN SHORE

This office, provided for in the Constitution of 1777, was abolished by an amendment to the Constitution in 1841-1842.²⁶

Treasurers were:

William Hindman	1775
James Hindman	1777
Edward Hindman	1778
Henry Dickinson	1779
William Richardson	1789
William Chambers	1802
William Richardson	1813
John K. B. Emory	1825
William K. Lambdin	1826
Pere Robinson	1840
John H. Harris	1841
Pere Robinson	1842-1843

9. OTHER EASTERN SHORE PERSONAGES

Countless Eastern Shoremen, like persons in all regions, contribute a great deal to their communities without high acclaim and often without becoming well-known. The prominent men listed above by no means completes the list of prominent Eastern Shoremen.

In 1941 Judge Samuel K. Dennis addressed the Eastern Shore Society of Baltimore City on "Eastern Shore Personages." He had been appointed to submit to the Board of Governors a list of persons in the various Eastern Shore counties to be honored by the Society in connection with its Historical Markers program. Judge Dennis reported that his duties were not easy. "Here are nine small counties with a roll of honor that might satisfy a nation. . . . The list, though long, is incomplete; might well have been twice doubled. The editors, authors, educators, clergy and business pioneers of the Eastern Shore, for example, are touched lightly when at all."²⁷

Many of those he named are included in the lists above, but in order to

indicate those regarded as important by Judge Dennis, a well qualified person, the names are presented in full and in the order given. Whereas Judge Dennis gives an excellent sketch of each, present space permits only a brief identification. The selections, he said, represent a "few of many Eastern Shoremen, who from pulpits, farms, ships, parliamentary halls, courts of justice, battle-fields, indeed from whatsoever spheres they walked, struck brave blows for freedom and worked valiantly for the spiritual, cultural, civic and economic welfare of our Shore prior to the Civil War period."²⁸

JOHN BEALE BORDLEY (1727-1804)—"the most advanced farmer of his age. He preached and followed sound economic ideas, to wit: the study of fertilizers, soil conservation, the divorce of Maryland farmers from their exclusive devotion to tobacco raising, taught them to raise wheat, diversified crops and live stock." Lived on Wye Island.

GENERAL JOHN CADWALADER (1742-1786), of Kent County, though born in Philadelphia. He was a distinguished officer in the American Revolution, highly regarded by Washington.

RICHARD BENNETT CARMICHAEL, of Queen Anne's County, served in Congress and as presiding judge of the (then) Seventh Judicial Circuit (Kent, Queen Anne's, Caroline, and Talbot counties) from April 23, 1858, to March 10, 1864. He was dragged from his bench and imprisoned by Federal military personnel during the Civil War.

WILLIAM CARMICHAEL, born in Queen Anne's County, served in the Continental Congress and on diplomatic missions to France and Spain. Died in 1795.

EZEKIEL FORMAN CHAMBERS (1788-1867). Soldier, legislator, jurist. Kent County.

SAMUEL CHASE (1741-1811). Signer of the Declaration of Independence, Justice of the Supreme Court, member of Continental Congress. Lived in Somerset County only four years.

STEPHEN DECATUR (1779-1820). America's great naval hero, born near Berlin, Worcester County, but not a resident thereafter.

JOHN DENNIS (1771-1807). Ancestor of Judge Samuel K. Dennis, and of the family of which the Publication Committee wrote: "... no family on the Eastern Shore has contributed more to its civic life, no family has been more distinguished."²⁹ Representative in Congress. Worcester County.

JOHN DICKINSON (1732-1808). Pamphleteer; member Continental Congress; soldier; founder of Dickinson College. Second son of Samuel Dickinson of Talbot County. He was author of *Letters from a Farmer in Pennsylvania to the Inhabitants of the British Colonies* (1768).

RICHARD TILGHMAN EARLE (1767-1843). Soldier, judge, great-grandfather of Swepson Earle. Queen Anne's County.

JAMES TILGHMAN EARLE. Born in 1814. Dennis says he was "the real father of the Agricultural College" (University of Maryland); active generally in agricultural development of State and Nation. Queen Anne's County.

JOHN BOWERS ECCLESTON (1794-1860). Legislator, judge. Kent County.

REVEREND SAMUEL FINLEY. Presbyterian minister, founder of West Nottingham Academy in Cecil County.

GOVERNOR CHARLES W. GOLDSBOROUGH (1765-1834). Served also 12 years in Congress. Dorchester County.

ROBERT GOLDSBOROUGH (1733-1788). Delegate to First Continental Congress,

member Council of Safety, and the Convention of the Province of Maryland, 1776, to frame a Constitution. Dorchester County.

ROBERT HENRY GOLDSBOROUGH (1779-1836). Soldier, legislator, United States Senator. Talbot County.

GOVERNOR WILLIAM GRASON (1786-1868). Legislator, governor. Queen Anne's County.

JOHN GUNBY (1745-1807). Distinguished Revolutionary War record, having brevet rank of Brigadier General in 1783. Somerset County.

GEORGE HANDY (1756-1820). Distinguished Revolutionary War record, attaining rank of captain. Somerset County.

JOHN HENRY (1750-1798). Member Continental Congress, United States Senator, Governor. Dorchester County.

THOMAS HOLLIDAY HICKS (1798-1865). Governor, 1858-1862, taking a firm stand against secession. United States Senator. Dorchester County.

WILLIAM HINDMAN (1743-1822). Representative and United States Senator, as well as being a member of Continental Congress. Dorchester County.

JOHN BOZMAN KERR (1780-1844). Representative and United States Senator. Talbot County.

EDWARD LLOYD I, and his line, including his only son, Philemon Lloyd (1646-1685), Indian fighter and legislator; Edward Lloyd II (1670-1718), justice, legislator, president of Council, acting governor (1709-1714); Edward Lloyd III (1711-1770), legislator, boundary commissioner; Edward Lloyd IV (1744-1796), legislator, member Executive Councils, of Continental Congress, and of Constitutional Convention, 1787; Edward Lloyd V (1779-1834), legislator, member of Congress, governor, United States Senator; Edward Lloyd VI (1798-1861), legislator, member Constitutional Convention, 1751; Edward Lloyd VII (1825-1907), legislator; and many other descendants. Talbot County.

REVEREND FRANCIS MAKEMIE (c. 1658-1708). The first Presbyterian minister-missionary in America to succeed in establishing a permanent church. Somerset County.

REVEREND THOMAS WILSON. Pastor of the Manokin Church, Princess Anne, 1685-1702. Had many able descendants.

REVEREND JOHN HENRY. Pastor of Makemie's own church, 1710-1717. Had many able descendants.

GOVERNOR DANIEL MARTIN (1780-1831). Legislator, governor, active in early affairs of Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. Talbot County.

LUTHER MARTIN (1744-1826). Teacher, lawyer, member of Continental Congress and Federal Constitutional Convention. Short residence in Queen Anne's and Somerset counties.

ROBERT NICHOLS MARTIN (1798-1870). Member of Congress and judge. Dorchester County.

DR. GEORGE EDWARD MITCHELL (1781-1832). Legislator, soldier, member of Congress. Cecil County.

ROBERT MORRIS (1734-1806). Financier of the Revolution. Talbot County.

WILLIAM VANS MURRAY (1762-1803). Legislator, member of Congress, diplomat. Dorchester County.

CAPTAIN JAMES NICHOLSON (1737-1804). In 1777 he became the first Senior Officer of the newly created United States Navy. Distinguished naval record. Kent County.

JOSEPH HOPPER NICHOLSON (1770-1817). Legislator, member of Congress, judge. Born in Kent County.

WILLIAM PACA (1740-1799). Signer of Declaration of Independence, member of Continental Congress, governor, judge, etc. Queen Anne's County.

CHARLES WILLSON PEALE (1741-1827). One of America's most notable painters, teacher of art. Queen Anne's County.

JAMES ALFRED PEARCE (1805-1862). State Legislator, member of Congress, United States Senator. Kent County.

NATHANIEL RAMSEY (1741-1817). Revolutionary War soldier, member of Continental Congress; naval officer, Port of Baltimore. Cecil County.

JAMES BARROLL RICAUD (1808-1866). State Legislator, member of Congress. Kent County.

COLONEL WILLIAM RICHARDSON (1735-1825). State Legislator, distinguished Revolutionary War record, founder of Caroline County. Born in Talbot County.

BENJAMIN RUMSEY (1735-1808). Member Continental Congress, "first Chief Judge of Maryland's Court of last resort." Cecil County.

JAMES RUMSEY (1743-1792). Undisputed claim to the invention of the tubular boiler. Cecil County.

GUSTAVUS SCOTT. Member of Continental Congress. Died, 1801. Born in Baltimore, later resident of Somerset and Dorchester counties.

JOSHUA SENEY (1756-1798). State Legislator, member Continental Congress, judge. Queen Anne's County.

GOVERNOR WILLIAM SMALLWOOD (1732-1792). Famed Revolutionary War general, governor of Maryland. Kent County.

JOHN SELBY SPENCE (1788-1840). Member of House of Representatives and United States Senator. Worcester County.

GOVERNOR SAMUEL STEVENS, JR. (1788-1860). Also State Legislator. Talbot County.

WILLIAM STEVENS (1630-1687). One of founders of Somerset County, served in Colonial Assembly, member of Board of Deputy Governors in 1684.

WILLIAM MURRAY STONE (1779-1838). Third Bishop of Maryland. Somerset (now Wicomico) County.

MATTHEW TILGHMAN (1718-1790). Served in Maryland Assembly, president of Provincial Convention, held other prominent Revolutionary War offices. Queen Anne's County.

TENCH TILGHMAN (1744-1786). Aide-de-camp to General Washington. Talbot County.

WILLIAM TILGHMAN (1756-1827). State Legislator, became eminent jurist in Philadelphia. Talbot County.

REVEREND JOSHUA THOMAS (1776-1853). "Parson of the Islands." Somerset County.

EDWARD TRIPPE. Started first steamboat line touching the Eastern Shore in 1813. Dorchester County.

GOVERNOR THOMAS WARD VEAZEY (1774-1842). State Legislator, soldier, governor. Cecil County.

CAPTAIN LAMBERT WICKES. Famed Revolutionary War naval leader. Kent County.

GOVERNOR LEVIN WINDER (1757-1819). Revolutionary War soldier, State Legislator, governor. Somerset County.

WILLIAM HENRY WINDER (1775-1824.) Lawyer and soldier. Somerset County.

GOVERNOR ROBERT WRIGHT (1752-1826). Soldier, legislator, Representative in Congress, governor, judge. Queen Anne's County.

SOLOMON WRIGHT (1717-1792). Lawyer (taught Luther Martin), member of Constitutional Convention of 1776, judge. Queen Anne's County.

THE WILMERS. Family of clergymen from Kent County, including Reverend James Jones Wilmer (1750-1814) and Reverend William Holland Wilmer (1782-1827).

WILLIAM WILSON BYRN. Born in 1811. Dry-goods merchant, promoted the railroad from Cambridge to connect with the Pennsylvania Railroad at Seaford; instigated Cambridge harbor improvement and construction of lighthouses in Choptank River. Dorchester County.

THOMAS KING CARROLL (1793-1873). Governor, promoter of education, lottery commissioner for Maryland, naval officer of the Port of Baltimore. Somerset County.

JOHN WOODLAND CRISFIELD (1808-1897). Journalist, lawyer, member of Congress, promoter of railroad from Delmar to Crisfield. Born in Kent County.

JOHN A. J. CRESWELL (1828-1891). Representative and United States Senator, Postmaster General in Grant's first administration, member of Alabama Claims Commission. Cecil County.

AUSTIN L. CROTHERS. Born in 1860. State Legislator, Governor (1908-1912). He is the "real father of the Maryland good roads system." Cecil County.

GEORGE ROBERTSON DENNIS (1822-1882). State Legislator, United States Senator, president of Delmar-Crisfield Railroad. Worcester County.

JAMES BLACK GROOME (1838-1893). State Legislator, governor, United States Senator. Cecil County.

DANIEL MAYNADIER HENRY (1823-1899). State Legislator, member of Congress. Dorchester County.

JUDGE LEVIN THOMAS HANDY IRVING (1828-1892). Judge of the Court of Appeals of Maryland. Somerset County.

HENRY LLOYD. Born in 1852. Educator, governor, judge. Dorchester County.

CHARLES CHAILLE LONG (1842-1917). Adventurer, soldier on two continents, explorer, diplomat, author. Somerset County.

HENRY PAGE (1841-1913). Member of Congress, judge. Somerset County.

JAMES ALFRED PEARCE (1840-1920). Lawyer, judge of Court of Appeals, authority on ecclesiastical law, son of United States Senator James Alfred Pearce, long-time member of Board of Visitors and Governors of Washington College. Kent County.

JUDGE JOHN M. ROBINSON (1827-1896). Served as Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals; on the bench for 32 years. Born in Caroline County, lived in Queen Anne's County.

JOHN WALTER SMITH (1845-1925). Businessman, State Legislator, member of Congress, governor, United States Senator. Worcester.

GOVERNOR PHILIP FRANCIS THOMAS (1810-1890). State Legislator, member of Congress, governor, Secretary of the United States Treasury, and held many other high positions, state and national. Talbot County.

CALEB C. WHEELER. In 1877 started successful Wheeler steamboat line between Baltimore and Eastern Shore. Caroline County.

EPHRAIM KING WILSON (1821-1891). Member of Congress, judge, United States Senator. Worcester.

10. THE EASTERN SHORE SOCIETY OF BALTIMORE CITY

It would be impossible to list all the prominent Eastern Shoremen of the past. Those of the present are included in the third volume of this publication, prepared by the publishers. It is of special interest, however, to mention the Eastern Shore Society of Baltimore City. This group is composed of Eastern Shoremen who have established residence in Baltimore to practice their professions, conduct their businesses and carry on other interests. But its members have never forgotten from whence they came, nor failed to give credit to their native Eastern Shore for its part in their background and development.

The Society was founded in 1913 and has grown through the years. It has established a Library which has been moved from one county to another. It contains a fine collection of books relating to Maryland and has been an invaluable aid in spreading knowledge of Maryland and Eastern Shore history. The Society also has published bulletins containing historical essays, promoted contests among high school students in the writing of Eastern Shore history, commemorated historical occasions with dedications of tablets, held annual dinners and other meetings, contributed to worthwhile Eastern Shore causes, and in general provided an outlet for those who come from the Eastern Shore and want to talk about it and preserve its history and traditions.

The Society in 1943 had a membership of approximately three hundred and fifty members and is larger today.

Countless Eastern Shoremen have sought in other centers to gather with others from their native section, and have joined such groups as the Eastern Shore Society of Washington, D. C., the Maryland Society of Pennsylvania, and others.

NOTES, CHAPTER XLIII

1. For short biographical sketches of these men see *Biographical Directory of the American Congress, 1774-1927* (Washington, U. S. Government Printing Office, 1928), Sketches appear alphabetically. Some may be found also in *Dictionary of American Biography*.

2. *Ibid.*; also see *Official Congressional Directory*.

3. *Official Congressional Directory* (Washington, Government Printing Office, 1946), p. 45.

4. *Biographical Directory of the American Congress, 1774-1927*.

5. D. J. Elliott Smith, *The Public Life of T. Alan Goldsborough*. This study, prepared as a thesis at Princeton University, consists of a typewritten manuscript of slightly over 100 pages. It is the most complete study of T. Alan Goldsborough to date. Judge Goldsborough generously put his copy of this study at the disposal of the editor.

6. *Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington Railroad Co. v. Alfred H. Smith*, 132 Maryland 345 and 250 U. S. 101.

7. *Washington Star*, January 21, 1939, as quoted by Smith.

8. *Baltimore Sun*, July 9, 1921.

9. *Congressional Record*, 1st sess., 69th Congress, V, p. 67; VI, p. 5890.

10. Goldsborough's thinking on the general currency problem and related problems was admirably summed up in the Commencement Address which he delivered at Washington College in June, 1949.

11. *Congressional Record*, 1st sess., 74th Congress, V. 79, Pt. 10:10859-10860, July 9, 1935.

12. Smith, *op. cit.*, p. 31.

13. Smith, *op. cit.*, p. 33.

14. *Washington Star*, October 3, 1938.
15. *Ibid.*, p. 35.
16. Quoted in Smith, *op. cit.*, p. 36.
17. *Colliers*, August 7, 1948.
18. *U. S. v. Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers*, 79 Fed. Supp. 485.
19. *Baltimore Sun*, April 9, 1946, May 18, 1947 (Magazine).
20. *Baltimore Sun*, May 18, 1947 (Magazine).
21. Mr. Miller's career may be followed not only through the *Congressional Record*, but also through the weekly article in the *Baltimore Sunday Sun*, entitled "Maryland in Congress," and through his weekly articles to the newspapers of his Congressional District. The latter are particularly valuable for gaining some insight into Mr. Miller's attitude on national issues.
22. *Maryland Manual*, 1948-1949, pp. 383-384. See also Heinrich Ewald Buchholz, *Governors of Maryland from the Revolution to the Year 1908* (Baltimore, Williams and Wilkins Company, 1908).
23. "Judges of the Court of Appeals of Maryland Since the Revolution with the County or City to Which Each was Accredited When Appointed or Elected, and the Period of Service of Each," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XX, No. 4 (December, 1925), pp. 375-378; *Maryland Manual*, 1948-1949, pp. 393-395.
24. *Maryland Manual*, 1948-1949, pp. 390-391.
25. *Ibid.*, pp. 392-393.
26. Chapter 200, 1841 and Chapter 239, 1842. See *Maryland Manual*, 1948-1949, p. 389.
27. *The Eastern Shore Society of Baltimore City, Bulletin Number 4, 1939-1943* (Published by the Eastern Shore Society of Baltimore City, Baltimore, Maryland, December, 1943), p. 12. The editor has been generously granted permission by the Eastern Shore Society and by Judge Dennis to use this material.
28. *Ibid.*, p. 14. For sketches see pp. 14-60.
29. *Ibid.*, p. 11.

CHAPTER XLIV

Origin of the County Names

*By Robert L. Swain, Jr.**

Nine counties, all shaped like jigsaw puzzle pieces, and many of them spilling over unto islands, constitute the Eastern Shore of Maryland. To tell the origin of the county names is to have the whole Baltimore family on a full-dress parade, with English royalty and bronze-skinned Indians a poor second. Yet, despite the names rich with traditions, it has long been common practice of the outsider to refer to a Shore county or all the counties together, loosely and conveniently, as the "Eastern Shore." This popular term, applied before any of the nine counties were created, was coined in the early 17th century to distinguish the western and eastern shores of the Chesapeake Bay. In 1637, three years after Calvert's little band landed at St. Mary's, the Provincial Assembly used the geographical expression in reference to the organizing of Kent Island—the Chesapeake's largest—as the "Hundred of Kent."¹

To begin with, the Shore's northernmost county is Cecil, an irregular mass of land cut into loose ends and odds by an overpowering combination of rivers: Elk, Susquehanna, Bohemia, and Sassafras. One of them is responsible for the name of the county seat, originally dubbed "Head of Elk," then officially incorporated as Elkton in 1787.²

It is hard for the uninitiated to guess how Cecil County came to be so-called, for the name is an anglicized version of Cecilius under which the second Lord Baltimore was baptized. Clean cut in appearance and of average height, his long face framed with brown hair falling to his shoulders, he was so wrapped up in the cloak of anonymity that it is difficult to squeeze enough facts from his life even for a short biography. The record of his death bears the date of November, 1675, one year after the county was created. However, we do know he was a member of Parliament in 1634 and when his famous father, Sir George Calvert and the first Lord Baltimore, died, he was designated to receive the Charter of Maryland from the King.³ Cecilius Calvert—to use both his Christian and family names—had planned to come to Maryland to see for himself, but for nearly forty-five years up to the time of his death he was obliged to remain home to defend the charter against persistent attacks. As first governor of Maryland, he appointed his brother, Leonard Calvert, then only twenty-eight years old.⁴

Next on the list is little Kent County—exactly a peninsula holding sway over abbreviated Eastern Neck Island—shaped like a bunch of grapes. As in Cecil, rivers and tidal tributaries run through the interior. Again rivers act as boundaries for Kent—the Sassafras breaking her entirely loose from Cecil and the broad Chester

* See sketch of at bottom of first page of Chapter I.

doing the same to Queen Anne's County on the south. The county capital is history-steeped Chestertown, officially founded in 1706 on the banks of the Chester:⁵ rather it was the river not the town that was really christened for the ancient and episcopal city of Chester in the English county of Cheshire.

First mentioned as a county in 1642, and because she once embraced all that part of Maryland east of the Chesapeake, Kent is frequently dubbed the "Mother County of the Eastern Shore," a sobriquet well justified. Beginning in 1658 with Baltimore County, although not on the shore but originally including territory consisting of Cecil and Upper Kent, other counties were carved out until Kent became the shrunken peninsula swimming in tidal water.⁶ It was by the indirect process that Kent came into ownership of her name, receiving it from nearby Kent Island at the mouth of the Chester. The island was christened as such during 1629-1631, perhaps by the stormy Captain William Claiborne, for the English maritime shire. Or possibly, if a supposition is to be entertained, he might have taken the idea from the estuary of Kent in Morecambe Bay adjoining his native Westmoreland County in Britain. It is interesting to know that the island, also the first settlement by the English in what is now Maryland, was the original Kent County until the government was shifted to the mainland.⁷

Across the Chester River, from Chestertown, is farm-carpeted Queen Anne's County in the center of which is the courthouse seat of Centreville, a blend of the quiet past and the unhurried present. No mental gymnastics are required to guess the source of the county's ultra royal name. Set up in 1706 out of a generous slice of Talbot by the Province, with Kent Island thrown in to complete the deal, the county immediately calls to mind Queen Anne (1665-1714), the last of the Stuart sovereigns and whose reign, a short span of twelve years, proved to be one of the most brilliant in English history.⁸ In 1702 she ascended the throne, succeeding William, the husband and consort of her sister, Mary, who died in 1693. Stubborn, strong-willed and dominated by intense dislikes, she had a mind of her own, often manipulating the political chessboard with a master hand. Her private life was one long tragedy: she lost fourteen children either by miscarriage or at childbirth, and the fifteenth—a boy—died an early death.⁹

South of Queen Anne's is Talbot County, a water-drenched land jutting into the green Chesapeake and drained by the snaking Choptank River. Historic Easton at the head of the Tred Avon, made a county seat in 1710 by the General Assembly, started life as "Talbot Court House" before being renamed in 1789, presumably in deference to Easton on the lower Avon River in England.¹⁰ The year 1662 is generally accepted as the date of the erection of Talbot—the second oldest county on the Maryland Eastern Shore, but the original proclamation authorizing the step is lost.¹¹

Those acquainted with the Calvert pedigree would be correct in surmising that the county recalls Lady Grace Talbot, sister of the second Lord Baltimore, and wife of Sir Robert Talbot, second baronet of Cartown in the county of Kildare, Ireland, who succeeded to the title in 1633 at the death of his father, Sir William, the first baronet.¹² The father was one of the militant Catholic leaders of Ireland and represented his home county in the Irish Parliament, becoming the "legal oracle" of the Catholic party in the House of Commons. Risking his political career as well as his fortune, he staunchly defended the position of the Irish Catholics against bitter attacks by the English government and finally gave his support to James I of England only after the king disclaimed any intention of forcing Ireland's Catholics to change their religion. He had eight sons and an

equal number of daughters. His second son, Peter, was famous as the Roman Catholic archbishop of Dublin and the eighth, Richard, was created earl of Tyrconnel and titular duke of Tyrconnel for outstanding services to the English crown.¹³

The action of naming a Maryland county after Grace Talbot might have been intended, as sometimes suggested, as a sweeping gesture to the numerous Talbots the second Baron of Baltimore was connected with—either by ties of marriage or blood kinship. Most likely he was proud of his sister's brothers-in-law who were distinguishing themselves not only for the king but also in the name of their faith. Not to be overlooked, too, is the fact that Lady Frances Arundel, sister-in-law of the second Lord Baltimore, was the second wife of the Honorable John Talbot, tenth earl of Shrewsbury.¹⁴

Divided from Talbot by the Choptank and Tuckahoe Creek is compact Caroline County nudging the Delaware border—governed from Denton near the head of the river. All in a class by herself, Caroline has no coastline bordering the Bay and, what is a strange anomaly, is not within sight of it.

Organized in 1773, just before the Revolutionary War flared up, Caroline is a constant reminder of Lady Caroline Eden, wife of Sir Robert Eden, known in local history as the last governor of Maryland under the Proprietary.¹⁵ Daughter of the fifth Lord Baltimore and sister by accident of birth to the utterly worthless and dull-witted Frederick, who let the family title lapse for not having a legitimate heir, she was married in 1765 to Sir Robert, a dashing captain in the elite Coldstream Guards. Three years later, upon being commissioned Governor of Maryland by his father-in-law, an appointment construed as one of nepotism, he brought his wife and three children to Annapolis. Handsome, of winning ways, courtly and urbane, very much the well-bred gentleman, he proved to be a popular executive, so popular in fact that it was with much regret he was asked to leave Maryland by the populace in 1776 because of the inevitable clash with England.¹⁶ His memory, somewhat tarnished by time, is perpetuated by Denton, the Caroline County seat, originally spelled "Eden-Town," then contracted to Edenton after the Revolution and finally shortened to Denton in 1791 upon the removal of the town farther up the Choptank.¹⁷

Struggling to form an identity all its own, even though defeated in its ambition by the overwhelming expanse of the Chesapeake, is the threading Choptank River which, like a wedge, separates Talbot from Dorchester on the south. Delightful and quaint are among the common adjectives for growing Cambridge, the county seat founded in 1684 and named for the cloistered English university town.¹⁸ Dorchester meets Caroline on the north and has been a political unit since 1668. It is true, although the fact sounds unconvincing because of the wide difference of spelling, the county honors a forgotten Earl of Dorset whose sole claim to posterity is based upon his friendship with the Calverts and Charles II.¹⁹

The peer, at the time Dorchester sprang on the map, was Sir Richard Sackville (1622-1677), the fifth of the line to hold the earldom. With a dilettante's flair for composing verses, among them a collection dedicated to Ben Jonson's memory, Lord Dorset was a member of Parliament before inheriting the peerage, and once suffered imprisonment for his political beliefs. The type to be active in anything that meant his own advancement, he was chairman of the committee arranging for the reception of Charles II in England at the occasion of the monarch's triumphal return from enforced exile in France. As anyone would expect in return for services to the throne, Dorset became a court favorite, was

heaped with honors, including well-paying offices, and before he died was elected a Fellow of the august Royal Society.²⁰

The meandering Nanticoke River, eating like acid through rustic scenery punctuated with neat clearings and cultivated farms, serves as a dividing line between Dorchester and Wicomico counties. By all standards, considering the great age of the other counties, Wicomico is a Johnny-come-lately as is attested by the unromantic date of 1867 on her birth certificate.²¹ However, to be fair, she makes up for green youth by being the home of bustling and hustling Salisbury—"the Metropolis of the Eastern Shore"—the county capital established in 1732 and baptized for the peaceful English cathedral town of Salisbury.²² Wicomico was not concocted out of thin air nor of virgin, unclaimed territory, but boldly hacked out of Somerset and Worcester counties by the State Constitutional Convention of 1867. Naturally as the baby of the family of peninsular counties, Wicomico has had neither the time nor the benefit of a long history to lay claim to traditions or legends steeped in age. To learn how the county became the recipient of an Indian term, one need not scurry to history books but only to refer to deep-flowing Wicomico River as the source. In turn the name of the river is a throw-back to the Wicomico Indians who, according to yellowing records, gave the colonists some trouble in early days. To get down to the root of the matter, the name comes from wicko, Indian for house, and mekee, for building, i. e. referring to an Indian town on the banks.²³ As early as the summer of 1608 curiosity-driven Captain John Smith, who more than any English explorer publicized the Chesapeake Bay country, mentioned the river at whose head of navigation is busy Salisbury, although he mistook the nearby Pocomoke River for the Wicomico.²⁴

Next county on Maryland's Eastern Shore is Somerset, partly divorced from Wicomico by the wandering Wicomico River, and almost slashed in half by the Manokin River. Proclaimed a full county on August 22, 1666 by another Governor Calvert, Somerset has something in common with Talbot and Caroline counties in that she was also christened for a feminine member of the Baltimore clan: Lady Mary Somerset, wife of Sir John Somerset who was the grandson of the influential Earl of Worcester, an associate of the first Lord Baltimore.²⁵ In fact, the noble-born lady was related to the Calverts only through the marriage of her sister, Lady Anne Arundel, to the second Lord Baltimore. Both were daughters of Thomas, first Lord Arundel of Wardour Castle (c. 1562-1639), a powerful Roman Catholic nobleman of the realm whose soldiering-of-fortune exploits brought him a peerage from a fascinated King.²⁶ The county seat is quiet, tree-shaded Princess Anne, set up in 1733; the namesake of Anne (1709-59), daughter of the mentally unstable King George II.²⁷ A few minutes' ride is the semi-marshy Deal's Island, the habitat of fishermen and oystermen; at certain seasons the rendezvous of sportsmen from everywhere.

East of Somerset is the Maryland Eastern Shore's easternmost county—Worcester, originally formed in 1672 and reborn in 1742.²⁸ Like Caroline, revived Worcester does not even touch the Chesapeake, as a matter of fact is miles away from it, and instead boasts of a magnificent grandstand view of breeze-spanked Chincoteague Bay—an enormous body of salt water stocked with seafood. Across a spidery inlet, on the other side of which stands booming Ocean City, Maryland's only ocean resort, is the green Atlantic. And tucked in the interior, say in the heart of the county, overlooking the Pocomoke River is pleasant Snow Hill, the headquarters of local government: its name only becomes the more incongruous

when the surrounding landscape is observed as being flat as a pancake. To make a long story short, the name itself was inherited from a 500-acre tract of land acquired in the locality in 1678 by Henry Bishop for 15,000 lbs. of tobacco and, in turn, taken from a section of old London.²⁹

When it comes to explaining how the Worcester name was adopted, some research is demanded of the period during which boundaries were clouded by dubious claims and counterclaims between rival proprietors. One has to go back to the seventeenth century when Delaware, successively occupied by the Swedes, the Dutch and then by the Duke of York as an outright gift from his brother Charles II, following Peter Stuyvesant's reluctant surrender of New Amsterdam in 1665, was long regarded a part of Maryland by the Lords Proprietor. Perhaps wishing to add weight to his claims, Lord Baltimore ordered the Provincial Council, in a directive dated July, 1669, to erect two counties in what is now Delaware—the area under dispute between himself and the Duke, the same having not yet been leased under a grant to William Penn.

In pursuance to his wishes, Durham, named for the English Bishop of Durham, and Worcester counties were set up in October, 1669, and June, 1672, respectively. Matters swiftly came to a head when Baltimore's hotly questioned claim to Delaware was thrown to the Privy Council in London for adjudication. Meanwhile the Duke of York had assumed the throne as James II, thus putting the judicial body in a most embarrassing position as it was by all circumstances, more or less, obliged to rule in favor of the King. Baltimore's worst fears were confirmed when the council handed down a ruling in 1685 to the effect that the disputed territory, now assigned to William Penn under a lease from the monarch, belonged to the crown, leaving Maryland less territory.³⁰

As if put under wraps for future uses, the Worcester name was dusted off in 1742 and given to a new county lifted out of Somerset in that year upon the petition of local inhabitants. Larger than now, the reborn entity exercised jurisdiction over a considerable part of lower Sussex County, Delaware, until 1767 when the boundary line was adjusted in a friendly settlement between Maryland and Delaware.³¹

The Worcester name, among the oldest in England, is prominently identified with the Calvert genealogy. One of the most outstanding bearers of the name was Edward Somerset (1553-1628), fourth earl of Worcester and a notable Catholic leader. He was the grandfather of Sir John Somerset, presumably of Cashel County, Tipperary, whose wife was honored with a Maryland county named after her ladyship.³² Again the earl was an associate of the first Lord Baltimore, a convert to Catholicism, and according to a celebrated English historian, Paul de Rapin, both gentlemen, together with another Catholic peer, the earl of Arundel—also connected with the Calvert family—were approached in 1620 with bribes by the Spanish Minister, Count Gondemar, to help advance his scheme of having the Prince of Wales marry the Infanta of Catholic Spain in order to weld the two monarchies into an unbeatable bloc. But defenders of Baltimore's memory have been quick to absolve him from any part of the shady business, many of them branding de Rapin's story as being without foundation.³³

If the day had had a "Who's Who," the Earl of Worcester would easily have had one of the longest biographies. He was a friend of three sovereigns—Elizabeth, James I and Charles I, all of whom showered him with offices and appointments. He was sent to Scotland, then a separate country, to felicitate James VI on his marriage and to invest him with the insignia of the order of the Garter. Also, he

officiated as earl marshal at the coronation of James I, and, that of Charles I as great chamberlain. Other emoluments coming to him included appointments to the privy council, as councilor of Wales, commissioner for the treasury, and as lord privy seal. Like men of wealth of his time, he had a large family—in all five sons and seven daughters.³⁴

Far from being mere geographical fixtures, the names of the Eastern Shore counties perpetuate the memory of the English who hacked a homeland out of the wilderness and their friendly Indian allies, both of whom did much to contribute to the romantic allure of the peninsula of today—an ideal place to live and to enjoy life.

NOTES, CHAPTER XLIV

1. *Archives of Maryland*, I, pp. 55-57.
2. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 319.
3. Edward D. Neill, *Terra Mariae* (1867), pp. 230-231; *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XXIV, pp. 126-132.
4. *Encyclopaedia Americana*, XVIII, p. 357.
5. Robert L. Swain, Jr., *Chestertown as a Colonial Port, 1706-1776*, pp. 1-2; A pamphlet based on original sources, published by Washington College, 1936.
6. *Archives of Maryland*, LIV, p. xi.
7. *Ibid.*
8. Edward B. Mathews, "The Counties of Maryland, Their Origin, Boundaries and Election Districts," *The Johns Hopkins Studies in Geological Survey*, VI, part 5 (1907).
9. *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, I, pp. 983-985.
10. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 374.
11. *Archives of Maryland*, III, p. 448; *ibid.*, LIV, p. xx.
12. *Maryland Historical Society Fund-Publication*, No. 8; *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XVI (1921), pp. 50-59, 184-204; *The Dictionary of National Biography*, XIX, pp. 331-335.
13. *Ibid.*, pp. 331-335, 338-339.
14. *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XVI, pp. 50-59, 184-204; *ibid.*, XXIV, pp. 126-132; *Maryland Historical Society Fund-Publication*, No. 8.
15. Bernard C. Steiner, "Life and Administration of Sir Robert Eden," *Johns Hopkins University Studies in Historical and Political Science*, XVI, Nos. 7-9 (1898); *Encyclopaedia Americana*, XVIII, p. 365.
16. *Ibid.*
17. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 414.
18. *Ibid.*, p. 258.
19. Mathews, *op. cit.*; Wiltach, *Tidewater Maryland*.
20. *The Dictionary of National Biography*, XVII, pp. 560-581.
21. Mathews, *op. cit.*, p. 562; Clayton Torrence, *Old Somerset on The Eastern Shore* (1935), p. 428.
22. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 293.
23. Mathews, *op. cit.*
24. Hulbert Footner, *Rivers of The Eastern Shore* (1944), p. 15.
25. Torrence, *op. cit.*, p. 485; *Archives of Maryland*, III, pp. 553-555.
26. *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, II, p. 494.
27. Torrence, *op. cit.*, pp. 428-429.
28. Mathews, *op. cit.*
29. Torrence, *op. cit.*, p. 419; *Archives of Maryland*, V, p. 503.
30. Torrence, *op. cit.*, pp. 428-429; *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XXIX, pp. 83-101; *Archives of Maryland*, V, pp. 54-56; *Ibid.*, XLII, p. 428; Matthew Page Andrews, *History of Maryland*, p. 162.

31. Torrence, *op. cit.*, p. 428; *Archives of Maryland*, XLII, p. 428; Mathews, *op. cit.*
32. Wilstach, *Tidewater Maryland*, p. 58; *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XXII, p. 315.
33. *Maryland Historical Society Fund-Publication*, No. 20, pp. 51, 158; *Ibid.*, No. 21, pp. 11-12.
34. *Dictionary of National Biography*, XVIII, pp. 655, 639-640.

CHAPTER XLV

Kent County

By Robert L. Swain, Jr.

Galore with history and snatches of rustic beauty, if not a bit of everything that makes the Eastern Shore one of America's most intriguing regions, is tiny, fragmentary Kent County of farm, orchard and tidal marsh. Paradoxes and contrasts abound in so small a territory—only 281 square miles of waterlogged area anchored to Delaware on the east. Geographers define Kent as a peninsula. But so far as the rest of Maryland is concerned, the county is considered as an island—completely isolated from the State on three other sides by the immense Chesapeake Bay on the west, the Sassafras River on the north, and the Chester River on the south and southeast. Kent is the smallest county on the Eastern Shore and the second smallest in Maryland, yet, paradoxically, is the possessor of a magnificent 209-mile around shoreline—complete with an island, Eastern Neck Island.¹ The overwhelming prevalence of water multiplying into all sorts of classifications such as bays, bights, harbors, creeks, and streams would suggest a maritime economy; instead landlubber agriculture is the order of the day. Thanks to a highly productive soil plus the industry of farmers, Kent has long enjoyed the distinction as Maryland's third richest agricultural county, and was one of the first counties in the United States to set up a soil conservation district.²

A glorious past, packed with deeds and facts, soaks Kent County with history, treasured traditions and quaint customs which are hardly dented by the heavy hand of progress. Still holding out with mulish obstinacy are old landmarks in form of clapboard and white stone manor houses over which three centuries have come and gone, dignified, weathered Georgian mansions, and time-bleached brick parish churches guarded by spreading oaks and elms. Next to Annapolis in the number of surviving eighteenth century mansions is the delightful county seat of Chestertown on the Chester; it has what the by far older state capital cannot boast of—a short street of such homes.³

By virtue of seniority as the oldest county on the Eastern Shore and the second oldest in Maryland, Kent cannot be accused of trumpet blowing when it comes to reciting an impressive list of "firsts." Here in operation is the oldest organized government in Maryland, the roots going back to Kent Island when the stormy, intrepid Captain William Claiborne settled there between 1629 and 1631;⁴ here, locked up in the court house vaults in Chestertown, are the oldest county records in Maryland, dating to the 1640s,* pregnant with raw history, much of it revealing, some of it frankly intimate;⁵ here is the terminus of the oldest turnpike in America—Rock Hall;⁶ here is the oldest college in Maryland, the eleventh

* A distinction enjoyed since the records of St. Mary's County were destroyed a number of years ago.

oldest in the United States, and the only institution of higher learning to be named after George Washington with his express consent—Washington College;⁷ and here is the State's oldest church in continuous existence—St. Paul's Parish.⁸

To be added to the "oldests" are the "firsts." Eastern Neck, fronting the Chesapeake, was the site of the first lasting settlement on the Eastern Shore.⁹ Here, too, the neck witnessed the building of the first church on the Eastern Shore mainland in 1652, and its ruins may be seen, if a persistent legend is to be believed, in ideally named Church Creek at low tide.¹⁰ To go back to Washington College, it was the first college in Maryland to be granted a charter by the State and the first collegiate commencement in Maryland was also held by the venerable institution.¹¹ The first troops to be ordered out from the Eastern Shore for action during the Revolution were the company of ninety-five minute men from Kent County under Captain William Henry and a like force from Queen Anne's. Marching doggedly for thirteen days, stopping only to rest, they reached Northampton, Virginia, in time to assist in resisting an attempted invasion by Lord Dunmore and his motley army of loyalists.¹²

Another first is valiant Captain Lambert Wickes of Eastern Neck Island, who was the first Navy officer named by Congress in 1776 to carry the American flag to European waters, the first of the fledgling Continental Navy to capture a British vessel in British waters, the first to command an American warship in Europe after the Declaration of Independence.¹³ And then, too, with pardonable pride, Kent harps on being the first Maryland county to practice woman's suffrage—1908 when women were granted the vote in Still Pond's town election.¹⁴ Of interest to lawyers is Kent's action in disbarring an attorney from practicing law in 1681—the only such instance mentioned in early Maryland records.¹⁵ Theologians are equally surprised to learn that the Episcopal Church of America had its beginnings in Chestertown where, in 1780, a group of representatives of the Church of England met to withdraw from the parent body and to adopt the term "Protestant Episcopal Church."¹⁶

In the realm of Fine Arts, Chestertown contributed Charles Willson Peale, born there in 1741, one of America's first artists to win international renown and for a time the chief American portrait painter.¹⁷ A national magazine once said, "No one better embodies the spirit in American art as it flourished at the time of the Revolution than Charles Willson Peale."¹⁸

By every test he was a near-genius, dabbling in a bewildering variety of fields. A prolific worker, with an eye cocked at posterity, he painted some sixty portraits of George Washington—one of the finest hangs in the State House in Annapolis. Again he was the first dentist in America to prepare sets of enamel teeth and, as his accomplishments indicated, he was a scientist of note, conducting his own scientific museum in Philadelphia with an exhibition of pre-historic mastodon bones he had dug up. To drain off surplus energy, he wrote pamphlets on building wooden bridges and on how to be happy with a wife. Thrice married, living to the ripe old age of 85, he sired twelve children upon whom he bestowed such names as Rembrandt, Titan, Raphael, Rubens.¹⁹

If the United States Navy were to have a Hall of Fame, chances are that many of the men honored would be Kent Countians. The most famous is the already mentioned Lambert Wickes who, among other gallant deeds, commanded the *Reprisal* of Revolutionary War fame and was responsible for Benjamin Franklin's safety while *en route* to France on a secret mission. In 1777 he perished with his ship in a howling gale off Newfoundland. His brother, Richard, who

won his spurs as a bold navy officer, was killed the year before in action with the enemy. Of him, John Barry, the first American commodore appointed by Congress at the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, said a braver man never existed.²⁰

Another notable brother team were the appealing, resourceful Nicholsons: Captains James, Samuel, and John. The first was the commander-in-chief of the Continental Navy, being the senior officer in charge from 1778 to the end of the war during which time he successfully held on to this rank against the strong claim of John Paul Jones. Samuel not only supervised the building of *Old Ironsides* and the U.S.S. *Constellation*—both frigates now preserved as floating museums by a grateful government, but he also served as John Paul Jones' lieutenant on the *Bon Homme Richard* in the decisive battle with the hulking British *Serapis*. Another feather in his crowded cap was the taking of the last naval prize of the Revolution. At the time of his death in 1811, he had been the Navy's senior officer for nine years. Four of his sons grew up to be Navy officers.²¹

Overshadowed by the Nicholsons, but in no way less distinguished, was Alexander Murray, of Chestertown, whose career personified the best traditions of the sea. In 1802 he opened the first affair of the war with the Tripoli pirates, who had exacted crushing tributes from the United States before privilege could be granted for trading in the Mediterranean, by attacking a flotilla of seventeen enemy gunboats and also in blockading their fortified city for two months. When he died he was the Navy's senior officer and commandant of the Philadelphia Navy Yard. A grandson was to wear the gold braids of an admiral.²²

War is an old, old story to Kent County—from the French and Indian War to the second World War. Stone slabs in Chestertown commemorate soldiers of four wars, topped in interest by the strictly unpartizan Civil War monument—the side facing the south honoring Confederate soldiers, the northern exposure, the Yankees.²³ One is a Revolutionary War memorial—also a silent tribute to the Kent Countians who fell in the fiercely-fought Battle of Long Island, under Washington, one of the war's bloodiest engagements.²⁴

Sending native sons off to battle, distasteful as it is, never seemed enough for Kent County. During the French and Indian War local citizens donated and equipped a man-of-war, bristling with twenty-six carriage guns and twenty swivels, and manned by a crew of 200 for action against the enemy.²⁵ Flour was sent to Washington's starving army at Valley Forge and other troops of the Revolutionary War were provided with weapons manufactured in Chestertown.²⁶ The same enthusiasm for victory was carried out through the two World Wars in the buying of victory and war bonds in quantities.

A "must" for the military-minded is pasture-like Caulk's Field, a few minutes' ride from Chestertown, where the only battle of the War of 1812 fought on the Eastern Shore took place. Here, on the midnight of August 30, 1814, a superior British company under Sir Peter Parker, ordered to make a "diversion" on the Shore to help weaken the military defenses of Baltimore, was routed by volunteers led by Kent's Lieutenant Colonel Philip Reed. Seeing their leader mortally struck in the thigh by buckshot, the British beat a hasty retreat, suffering casualties, among them two lieutenants. In a nearby farm house which still stands, Sir Peter died—he was not yet 28 years old—spared from the bitter knowledge that during the withdrawal the Americans had run out of ammunition. Long afterwards the memory of the battle was celebrated by Negroes with a curious mixture of folklore and legend as "Marse Peter Parker's War."²⁷

Kent has a quota of heroes and heroines that stir the imagination. One was youthful, plucky Kitty Knight: she sprang into fame during the War of 1812 when Georgetown, on the Sassafras, was burned by the redcoats under Admiral Cockburn who did a similar job on the nation's capitol and the White House. With the enemy approaching to fling a torch to the house where she happened to be, she shrilled at them, her eyes flashing defiance: "I shall not leave; if you burn this house, you burn me with it!" Twice the British tossed the kindling flame and each time Kitty extinguished it with her broom.

Confronted with this show of womanly resistance, the commanding officer barked out an order to spare the house and the one adjoining it.* Still preserved is Kitty's home, built in 1755, and used as headquarters by the British for campaigning on the Eastern Shore during the War of 1812. While they were her unwelcome tenants, she turned spy and ferreted out information in her quiet way for the Americans. Rich with its 18th century flavor, the residence is today operated as an inn as in the past when George Washington himself was an occasional guest.²⁸

Another character of semi-legendary proportions was fiery, tart-tongued General John Cadwalader, a trusted friend of Washington, whose windy epitaph in Shrewsbury Parish graveyard was composed by Thomas Paine of "Common Sense" immortality. Cadwalader would have been one of those Revolutionary War officers shelved by obscurity if he had not challenged Washington's principal detractor to a duel. He succeeded in only shooting out his opponent's teeth, but at seeing him on the ground with blood oozing from his mouth, saved the day for Washington's honor with this neat quip: "I have stopped the damned rascal's lying tongue at any rate."²⁹

A hero of a later vintage was Captain William I. Rasin, a Confederate cavalryman, who led the first charge at Appomattox, according to survivors of that engagement. As if born under a lucky star, he escaped death several times during the war—not only had he a horse shot under him but also received a dangerous sabre wound on the head. In a way he was responsible for the last blow struck by the Army of Northern Virginia. As commanding officer of the first squadron of the first Maryland Cavalry and riding with Colonel Dorsey at the head of his regiment, he cried out after seeing the federals charging toward them, "Colonel, we must charge them, it's the only chance." Thus influenced, Dorsey shouted the command, "Draw sabres—gallop—charge." The enemy was driven back with losses by this band of brave Marylanders.³⁰ During the war, while visiting his Kent County home—"Stoneton," in the family since 1720—Rasin was seized by Union authorities and carted away to the notorious Old Capitol Prison in Washington for the duration. At the end of hostilities, he engaged in business in Chestertown, dying in 1916.³¹

Speaking of the Civil War, Chestertown—like the rest of the Eastern Shore

* There is some confusion regarding the Kitty Knight House. Hulbert Footner, in his *Rivers of the Eastern Shore*, says that "As a matter of fact, her house *was* burned by the British. It was another woman's house she saved."

The New York Herald Tribune, February 9, 1949, in a story on Kitty Knight, reported: "The British under Admiral Cockburn landed in Georgetown during the War of 1812. They burned the village but spared the house which was Kitty Knight's home." *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State* (1940) insists that Kitty's home and the house adjoining it were saved from destruction, although every house in the village had been burned. Usilton, in his *History of Kent County, Maryland*, agrees with this fact, contending that Kittys' home was spared by the British.

which adjoins the Virginia-Accomac peninsula—was openly if not frankly sympathetic to the Confederacy, although it contributed many volunteers at Lincoln's call* To prevent aid to the enemy and to help keep the Eastern Shore within the Union column, the town was garrisoned by Yanks who encamped on a nearby farm.³²

Still dramatic, although a bit shop-worn from being retold countless times, is the 100-mile horseback ride starting from Kent County of Lieutenant Colonel Tench Tilghman—to notify Congress of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown. Handsome, if not thoroughly urbane, and possessing all the qualities that make for a superior officer, he was Washington's confidential secretary and aide-de-camp, despite the fact that his father was a strong loyalist. The senior Tilghman served for a time as secretary of the vestry of St. Paul's Church and is buried in the parish cemetery.

When asked by Washington to inform Congress, then sitting at Philadelphia, of the sensational news, Tilghman was down with the malaria, but was stirred into accepting by the impact of the announcement. The trip, made in three laps, was wearisome in a day of slow transportation and dusty or mud-bogged, rutted roads: first to Annapolis by an open boat from York Harbor, Virginia; then across the Chesapeake to the Kent County port of Rock Hall; and finally by horseback to the Quaker City from Rock Hall, the starting point of his famous ride. Fresh mounts were secured along the way by Tilghman with his throaty, excited cry: "Cornwallis is taken! A fresh horse for the Congress!"

He reached Philadelphia at midnight, terribly fatigued from the ordeal of his ride, and at once proceeded to the home of the president of the Congress. His loud, incessant rapping at the official's door nearly had him arrested as a disturber of the peace. With the news out, the whole city woke up, wild with joy that independence had become a reality after seven hard years of almost ceaseless fighting.³³

In the hurly-burly field of politics, Kent has furnished a score of brilliant men. One was notably General William Smallwood, born in 1732 in Kent County, a great military strategist, who was elected Governor of Maryland in 1785, serving three years. The holder of a distinguished war record, he succeeded to the command of Baron DeKalb's division at Yorktown upon the death of that brave German soldier.³⁴

Few American towns of comparable size can match Chestertown's record of having contributed five United States Senators. They were General James Lloyd; a lawyer and soldier, who was elected to the U. S. Senate in 1797 to fill a vacancy; the civic-minded Colonel Philip Reed, a Revolutionary War captain and a veteran of Caulk's Field, sent to the U. S. Senate in 1806 for a term ending in 1813; brainy, upright Judge Ezekiel Forman Chambers, a graduate of Washington College and twice a U. S. Senator (1826 and 1832) and who declined for reasons of poor health the invitation of President Fillmore to become Secretary of the Navy; quick-witted, scholarly Judge James Alfred Pearce, a lawyer of the old school, who during his long career in the U. S. Senate—1843 until his death in 1862—was nominated and actually confirmed Secretary of the Interior, only to refuse the honor with the frank admission that he would be far more useful as a Senator; and energetic General George Vickers, also a lawyer by profession,

* Out of a voting population of less than 200, Chestertown contributed 62 soldiers to the Union Army in 1861. (Usilton, *History of Kent County, Maryland*, p. 134).

who received the senatorial toga in 1868, wearing it with distinction until 1873, and is credited by many with having helped block the impeachment of unhappy President Johnson.³⁵ Kent County can also lay some claim to Robert Wright, U. S. Senator—1801 until 1805—when he resigned to become governor. Wright practised law in Chestertown until the outbreak of the Revolution and represented Kent County in the General Assembly in 1786.

Not all of Kent's leaders have been high-minded. Still talked about as if it happened yesterday was the utterly fantastic attempt of John Frazier, provost marshal of Kent County, to throttle all opposition to his candidacy for clerk of the court in 1860. The day before the election, which turned out to be no emergency whatever, he declared a state approaching martial law—filling the streets of Chestertown with infantrymen and cavalrymen sent from Baltimore on two government transports. Thus backed by armed might, he proceeded to seize and arrest all candidates on a rival ticket and those who had dared to oppose his ambition for the clerkship. He had them confined in the holds of the troop ships. Next he forced the town's newspaper office to print special notices for the conduct of the election which, among other details, brazenly announced that soldiers would guard every polling place to guarantee the success of the party ticket with which Frazier was affiliated. Finally, the prisoners—consisting of some of the county's most outstanding citizens—were ferried to Baltimore for safe-keeping. Enroute to the city, they passed two troop ships packed with unsuspecting Home Guards on leave to exercise their right of voting in Kent County. Disembarking at Chestertown, the guards were promptly informed of Frazier's trickery. Blazing mad, and refusing to be intimidated, they held in one of their camps, outside the town, an election in which the would-be Napoleon was roundly beaten ten to one. Meanwhile, two local leaders had hurried to Baltimore by train to protest to the commanding general of the Department of Maryland. Shocked when told of the true facts, he ordered the "prisoners" returned home on the next boat and directed that the provost marshal be arrested and taken to Baltimore to face charges.³⁶

Frazier may have misused his power, but when it comes to notoriety of the most vicious type Captain Thomas Bradnox, who died in 1662, virtually stands alone. Holding his own as sheriff, militia captain, and court justice, he was charged with crimes serious enough to have him jailed for life or hanged on the gallows. Ignorant, boorish, a browbeating bully, and unable to sign his name other than a crude "X," he was continually in trouble for heavy drinking, embezzling public funds, excessive swearing, disturbing the peace, assault, and for causing the deaths of two servants. One of the county's heaviest drinkers, he could swear "like a madman" and roll off "at least one hundred oaths." An insight to his character may be seen from the statement of the Governor's Prosecuting Attorney that Bradnox had been guilty at various times of "the crimes of rebellion, sedition, rapines, thefts, robberies, and other such-like felonious practices." No doubt, Bradnox's high standing in the county had him escaping punishment no more severe than light fines.

Nauseating details of his cruelties to servants are thick as flies in court records. He was forever suing his servants or being sued by them. They accused him and his wife, practically a carbon copy of her husband—loud, coarse and of loose morals—of beating them with thick staffs and tobacco stalks, in many instances inflicting serious injuries. Once in a fit of blind rage, he felled a maid-servant with "twenty-one blows of a great rope's end" because, as he blandly tes-

tified, "she did spoil me a botch of bread." Worse, he was accused of locking up a servant for several days without food and water, and threatening other servants with dire consequences if they should bring him food and help. With a complete disregard for human life, he beat his servants until the heavy stick broke, there being an instance of his beating one of them fifty times. Little wonder he was arrested for beating a manservant to death, and accused of killing another who died from injuries suffered from repeated blows. The Province had a chance of putting the sadistic couple behind bars for murder, but during the trial the captain expired and the case was dropped when the jury refused to indict the widow. One redeeming feature of Mrs. Bradnox was that she defended her husband as his "attorney in court" in 1661, perhaps for the very reason no one would undertake the job. This may make her Maryland's second woman lawyer after Kent Island's Margaret Brent.³⁷

Anyone with a nodding acquaintanceship with Maryland history knows of the rich background of Kent County—more than three centuries of written history. But the average Marylander was unaware of this until 1942 when newspapers broke out with articles and editorials heralding the 300th anniversary of Kent as a County. Even though a terrible war was searing the globe, the year was not permitted to pass without a celebration.

Such an one was held in Chestertown on the sun-drenched day of August 1, 1942, attended by the governor, a representative from the British Embassy, Washington, the British Consul in Baltimore, and officials from each of the eight other Maryland Eastern Shore counties. One of the highlights was the unveiling of a simply designed stone shaft to the memory of the county troops of the Revolutionary War. While this took place, the colonial banner of Kent—an average size blue flag—fluttered proudly in the breeze from the court house mast.³⁸

The day's climax was a "Traditional Eastern Shore Dinner." Dinner programs of blue paper—the color of Kent's colonial banner—bore an excellent reproduction of the seal granted to the county in 1692 when Maryland was, for a fleeting moment, a royal province. Of complicated heraldry, it consisted of the coat-of-arms of William and Mary, the reigning monarchs, encircled with the legend: "The County of Kent in Maryland."³⁹

The tercentenary celebration, strictly speaking, was in observance of the first known reference to Kent as a county. As far as the records show, there is absolutely no evidence of a law establishing Kent as a County—not even so much as a fragmentary scrap. The earliest mention of her status as a County is dated July 18, 1642 and refers to a chance incident—the refusal of the General Assembly at St. Mary's City to seat two proxies as representatives of the freemen of "Kent County" on a technicality. The situation quickly resolved itself when a certificate of their election was discovered by the clerk. Another reference to Kent as a County appears in September of the same year when a law concerning the appointment of judges was passed by the legislature. The absence of a law creating Kent County has given rise to a few theories, all of which claim an age older than 1642. One authority, himself a painstaking historian, believes that Kent was set up as a County a year after St. Mary's County was created in 1637 because a sheriff was appointed for Kent Island in 1638. Such an important post, he states, usually implied the existence of a full-fledged county. Another serious student of history suggests the year 1640: he bases his conclusions entirely upon the wording of three Assembly acts (October, 1640, August, 1641, and March, 1642), containing references to *every* county and *any* county in Maryland.

At this point of Maryland history, he emphasizes, St. Mary's and Kent were the only recognized names that might have been referred to. With this in mind, it would be easy to assume that both were fully recognized as counties as early as October, 1640. However, the year 1642 will continue to have top priority—that is to say, until the past unlocks more of her zealously guarded secrets.⁴⁰

If it had not been for her navigable rivers and the Chesapeake, Kent would not have been visited as early as 1608 by Europeans. Her recorded history began in the midsummer of that memorable year when Captain John Smith wandered into the Sassafras—the county's deepest river—in an "open barge." Still exciting as an old dime thriller is his narrative of meeting seemingly hostile Indians—Tockwaghs by name—all armed "in a fleete of boats after their barbarous manner" about six miles up the river.

Snatched from apparent danger by a quick-thinking redskin who could speak the language of Powhatan, the Captain and his fourteen men were escorted to the Indian Village of "Tockwagh," just east of Turner Creek. There they were feted and entertained with rounds of dancing and native songs. As a token of their friendship, the aborigines presented the Virginians with gifts of fruit, fish, and fur. Obviously, what got the best of Smith's curiosity was the discovery that a good number of the weapons and iron utensils of his primitive hosts had come all the way down from the French in Canada, then traditional enemies of the English, through continuous barter—from one tribe to another. Before heading back for Jamestown, he is said to have nosed into the Chester, meeting there an Indian tribe which is referred to as the "Ozinies" on his quaint map of Tidewater Virginia and Maryland.⁴¹ It is a mystery why Smith did not care to give the Chester an Indian label as he did with the Sassafras by identifying it as "Tockwagh" after the Indian village on his map. Nevertheless, it remained for someone else to call the river for the old and episcopal city of Chester, England, the capital of the County of Cheshire, 16 miles southeast of teeming Liverpool.

It was a Virginian, a man after Smith's heart and like him a restless captain with an enormous appetite for life, who was indirectly responsible for the name of Kent County. He was Captain William Claiborne, "The Evil Genius of Maryland." At seeing Kent Island, at the mouth of the Chester River in 1629, he must have been strongly reminded of the estuary of Kent in Morecambe Bay lapping his native Westmoreland County in England. However, an accepted version has the island taking the name from an English maritime county. Interestingly enough, the island which, by the way, is the Chesapeake's largest and the site of the first settlement by the English in what is now Maryland, was the *original* Kent County, prior to 1659 the headquarters of a vast empire—the "Isle and County of Kent"—supposedly embracing all of Maryland east of the Bay.⁴² One county after the other was whittled out of this rich domain until Kent County became the shrunken peninsula. Kent Island went into decline soon after the opening of the adjoining mainland to settlement in the middle 1650s and to the recognizing of it as *the* Kent County in 1662. Like a great actor bowing out of the stage after having groomed a worthy successor, the island was given to Talbot County in 1695, eleven years later going to Queen Anne's County as a compromise between Kent and Talbot. Thus, in a sense, Kent County cannot claim continuity of territory from 1642, except in the matter of government only.⁴³

The transition from an island led to hazy, careless interpretations of Kent County's mainland boundaries, with Baltimore and Cecil counties claiming big chunks below the Sassafras. Baltimore actually ran to the Chester River, held

court sessions at Howell's Point on the Bay side. The Eastern Neck section and the Kent County seat of New Yarmouth were added to Cecil County, respectively in 1674 and 1682. Both areas were restored to Kent promptly when the affected inhabitants angrily protested to the Province. But soon afterwards a large portion of land below the Sassafras was ceded to Cecil County, perhaps as a sop to her injured pride. Twenty-four years later, in 1698, it was returned to



Kitty Knight House, Georgetown, Kent County

Kent. Order came in 1706 with action fixing the Sassafras as the northern boundary and the Chester as the line of demarcation from the newly created Queen Anne's County.⁴⁴

To return to Captain Claiborne: credit goes to him for shrewdly realizing Kent Island's strategic and geographical advantages. What a fabulous character he was! Under his iron thumb, the island became a thriving trading post and was represented as a Virginia county in the House of Burgesses at Jamestown. His authority became jeopardized when King Charles I, in an expansive mood, granted the Charter of Maryland in 1632 to Sir George Calvert, the first Lord Baltimore.

Space forbids rehashing the bitter dispute with the second Lord Baltimore—Cecilius Calvert. Nevertheless, as quarrels go, it had everything: bloodshed, intrigue, passion, spying, betrayal! A weaker man would have bowed to Baltimore's friendly, later adamant, request that he hold the island as a tenant of his—the Lord Proprietor—not of the King in the Royal Colony of Virginia.

Cagey Claiborne, never! He had practically an air-tight case for his rights: he had received a license in 1631 from the same Charles I, to trade and make discoveries "in any and all parts of North America not already preempted by monopolies." What arms and gunpowder failed to accomplish, treachery did, and the Chesapeake Bay isle was turned over to the Maryland authorities by a

treacherous subordinate, Captain George Evelin, in December, 1637, while Claiborne—and no more opportune time could have been picked—was in England on business. The next year the Lords Commissioners sitting in London ruled that Baltimore had a more valid right and title to Kent Island.

Always ready to seize an opportunity, Claiborne was back on the island in 1644, the *coup d'état* made possible by the absence of Governor Calvert, brother of the second Lord Baltimore, in England and the political chaos caused by the bickering between the acting governor and headstrong Captain Richard Ingle. Two years later Claiborne was obliged to flee again to Virginia when Calvert reestablished himself in authority. In 1657, with the Puritans in power, Claiborne, who was friendly to the Cromwell cause, was indemnified for the loss of the island with generous grants in Tidewater Virginia.⁴⁵ A part is now called New Kent County—mute testimony indeed of Claiborne's love for the Chesapeake isle. Not quite appeased, he continued to brood over the treatment he received at the hands of Calvert's men, and in 1677 when nearly ninety years old, he made a last unsuccessful bid to the Crown for the return of the island.⁴⁶

As if to tighten its grip on Kent Island, the Provincial Assembly took the step, at its initial meeting at St. Mary's City in 1637, to set up the island as a "hundred" of St. Mary's County, taking care to specify that the status was to stand "until another County shall be created on the Eastern Shore."⁴⁷

Captain Evelin (or Evelyn), who had conspired with the Province in ousting Claiborne from control, was rewarded with appointment as commander or as the chief civil, judicial and military officer of the new Hundred of Kent. He was to appoint a clerk or register to assist him in administering local affairs, the two to constitute a Court of Record. Again Evelin was empowered to appoint six or more additional commissioners, who were not named in the governor's commission, to sit with him as a court "with powers in civil cases not involving more than ten pounds sterling, and in criminal cases with powers similar to those exercised by justices of the peace in England sitting in their Court of Sessions."⁴⁸ To assist with the law enforcement a sheriff was appointed in 1638, the honor going to Captain John Langford, one of Lord Baltimore's most trusted lieutenants and whose name is perpetuated by serene Langford's Bay, a tributary emptying into the Chester River.⁴⁹

Six men were to succeed Evelin as commander of the island, and later of the county, before the post was abolished in the spring of 1658. The last incumbent was Captain Philip Connor who appeared as presiding justice or chief justice without title at the next court meeting after the commandership was discontinued. His successors served as such until the State was split into judicial districts in 1787, introducing the office of chief judge for each court.⁵⁰

Among the early county offices which have survived the acid test of time are the clerkship of the court, already mentioned as having been set up in 1637, county surveyor (c. 1638), county commissioners (1642, although these for the Hundred of Kent were appointed in 1637), and the justices of the peace (1637).^{*} Still functioning as in the past are the Grand and Petit juries.⁵¹

The evolution of the county government to the present form was an orderly, for the most part flexible process, eliminating obsolete offices and adding new ones through legislative action or the amending of state constitutions. Shortly

* During the Colonial period the duties of the justice of the peace were performed by the commissioners who were also called judges, justices and justices of the peace as well.

after Maryland voted for statehood, the county became a quasi-municipal corporation with varying latitudes of self-government—a far cry from the tight hold upon it by the Provincial Assembly.⁵²

Who were the first settlers, and where did they come from? In answer to this question, Kent Island, eventually to become Kent County was peopled by Virginians under Claiborne and after he was eliminated there were several waves of immigration from St. Mary's City. Other additions were the Puritans either coming directly from lower Virginia or after a brief sojourn in Anne Arundel County, they becoming the controlling element on the scene when the Province was run by the Commissioners of Parliament during Cromwell's ascendancy. At any rate, the population grew at a snail's pace, since it was not until 1671 that significant gains were reported—1,000 against the estimated 650 for the preceding year. Obviously, the slow growth was due to the carving of successive counties out of Kent's domain, each action automatically reducing the county population.⁵³

An effective bait for attracting settlers was the offer of free land, provided they consented to bring their families or a certain number of people to Maryland. This practice was ended in 1683; after that land was obtainable only by purchase.⁵⁴ As an example of how the system worked in Kent County, one Thomas Godlington—to select an outstanding settler—was granted 1,000 acres bordering the Chester River in 1657 for transporting twenty people to the Province.⁵⁵

Today his "Godlington Manor" embraces only a part of the original tract, but is still ever one of the Eastern Shore's show places with a thrilling view of the Chester River snaking lazily toward Crumpton. In a remarkable state of preservation, even though reflecting great age, is the gambrel-roofed and white clapboard house, said to date to Godlington's time. It is about perfect as an unretouched picture of a seventeenth century manor house—with a log-linted fireplace and a peephole in the wooden latch which served as a lookout for Indians.⁵⁶

Again the land grant was an effective instrument used by Lord Baltimore with which to reward his loyal retainers and political lieutenants for meritorious service.⁵⁷ For a period of years much land, mostly overlooking the breeze-spanked Chesapeake or the rivers, was awarded to a string of favorites such as governors, including Captain Thomas Cornwallis and Captain Josiah Fendall who dared to mutiny against Lord Baltimore's authority.⁵⁸

Not too satisfied with the land grant alone, Baltimore went further to present the title of court baron to a favored few. Those actually designated as such failed to make use of the privilege or simply refused to be addressed by the salutation that went with the patent of nobility.⁵⁹ The first to be so honored in Kent County was Colonel Edward Carter, powerful secretary of the colony of Virginia, who was assigned the largest land patent in the annals of the county—princely "Worton Manor" of 2,300 acres in 1658. Reminders of this grant are the village of Worton and nearby Worton Creek. It is no wild guess that the action was taken for more cordial relations with Virginia.⁶⁰ The next largest land grant in the county was "Hinchingham" of 2,200 acres, issued to Captain Thomas Hynson, a justice of the court.⁶¹

While grants of 1,000 acres or over may have established a landed class like the English gentry, the majority of the grants were for a few hundred acres: the smallest known consisted of 34 acres along the Chester. Sentimentality or poetry characterized many of the land grant names. Examples: "Lovely's Neck," "Batchellor's Hope," "Salter's Hope," "Fair Harbor," "Goodhope," "Partnership," "New Forest," or such tongue-twisters as "Camelsworthmore." There

were the grotesque such as "Hangman's Folly." A popular practice was to affix "Town" to the name of the grantee: "Stone's Town," "Hollman's Town," "George's Town," or "Smith's Town."⁶² For the most part the typical name recalled a former home or place of origin in England. A few names have stubbornly persisted to this day as place-names, Tolchester, Fairlee, Worton, for instance. Even doing similar duty are the surnames of former plantation owners, which identify some of the county's waterbodies and points. To list a few: Morgan's Creek, Langford's Bay, Comegy's Bight, Howell's Point.

The arrival of more settlers resulted in setting up two central divisions on the Kent County mainland with a constable for each appointed late in 1660 by the court.⁶³ As the population began to fan out, the two areas were subdivided into "hundreds" with a set of officers, including constables, coroners, and overseers of roads and bridges.⁶⁴ By 1674 seven hundreds had appeared, all within the immediate vicinity of the Chesapeake and the Chester.^{65*} Once indispensable, the unit continued to serve as a military and fiscal district even during the Revolution before being officially done away with in 1824.⁶⁶ The basic principle still exists in Kent as a "division," there currently being seven in number for election and taxation purposes.⁶⁷

Key men of the governing hierarchy in early Kent as now were the commissioners who were members of the county court, and because of this they were also addressed as justices, judges and justices of the peace. Often chosen for leadership, politics, and other desirable qualities, although there were exceptions to the rule, they were appointed and directly responsible to the governor and his council. Nor did the court concern itself wholly with the law, but it was expected to administer the business affairs of the county, impose levies, appoint minor officials such as the constables, and to send a list of three available candidates for sheriff to the governor for him to pick one out. Final say in other appointments was usually reserved to the presiding justice.⁶⁸

At stated times the justices served as sort of an orphans court with attendance compulsory at pain of a fine which, if imposed, was used to buy pillories, whipping posts, and stocks instead of being spent on the welfare of homeless children.⁶⁹ The modern prototype of the old county court is the Second Judicial Circuit with jurisdiction in the counties of Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's, Talbot, and Caroline,⁷⁰ while the managerial duties have been inherited by an elected board of county commissioners.⁷¹

Not always did the justices wear the halo of shining respect. There are instances of name-calling among them, often erupting into libel. A scene that would never occur today was the denouncing by a court member of the presiding justice as a "whore master;" his honor, not to be outdone, retorting with "hog thiefe."⁷² Such display of bad temper was reflective of an age when individual stubbornness was a common personality trait. Except for the unfortunate breaches of decorum, judicial dignity was at all times zealously maintained with threats of fine and punishing for contempt of court. Even former justices, should they incur the tribunal's ire, were not exempt. Take for example the fine of nearly one thousand pounds of tobacco imposed upon Captain Vaughan, who had been suspended as commander of Kent by the Commissioners of Parliament, for deriding the court as "his Majesty's dog house."⁷³

* Town () Hundred, Chester River Lower Hundred, Langford's Bay Hundred, Swan Creek Hundred, Island () Hundred, Eastern Neck Hundred, Chester Upper Hundred. There was also a Worton Hundred.

Being all too human and susceptible to temptations, especially when life made hard demands, a few of the judges were involved in messy scandal and it was to the credit of the early court that no whitewashing was resorted to. It was a justice's mix-up with an unmarried servant girl that gives Maryland history one of its most curious sidelights of early life. In this, at the complaint of the horrified master, the sheriff was directed by the court to impanel a jury of women "to search the said servant" in order to find out whether "she be with child or not." But no pregnancy was reported by the jury. Not knowing what to do, the judges, however, took the extra precaution of ordering their backsliding colleague to post a bond for 5,000 pounds of tobacco "to save the county harmless from the said woman's child in case it proved to be his."⁷⁴

A summary of the punishments meted out by the old-time judiciary shows that it veered between harsh and lenient justice. In 1661 a hog thief was ordered to wear "a piece of paper on his chest" in open court in lieu of a fine he had been unable to pay, and as added punishment was to repair a certain bridge before the next sitting of the court.⁷⁵ Sentencing convicted countians to repair and maintain bridges was one of the early court's favorite disciplinary measures. This proved a boon to the hundred overseers of roads who had to conscript labor from all "taxables," including their valuable, hard-to-get tools.⁷⁶ In 1657 a suspected cattle rustler was expressly forbidden by the court to go to the woods anytime except only in the company of "Two honest naybours."⁷⁷ For committing perjury, a man was nailed by the ears to the pillory—the nails later slit to leave ugly scars, and prior to release he was whipped on the back twenty times.⁷⁸ The penalty for hog stealers was later made more severe, the law requiring branding on the forehead with the letter "H" for the second offence, while the first offence was punishable by standing in the pillory for four hours, to be followed by cropping of the ears.⁷⁹ But nothing compares with the barbarous punishment accorded in 1745 to a woman convicted of assisting in a murder in Chestertown. While her two male accomplices died more quickly on the gallows, she was burned to death like a Christian martyr. A report of this grisly spectacle appears in the *Maryland Gazette*.⁸⁰

An unusual method of determining guilt was the ancient English procedure of the "Blood Test." In 1661 the county coroner employed it to check the innocence of Captain Thomas Bradnox when he was suspected of killing his manservant. It was believed—in a day when superstition was rampant—that the body of the slain person would bleed if touched by the real murderer. Brought to face with the corpse of his servant, Bradnox defiantly shook it and thrust his thumb into it to show "how the flesh did dent." No blood appeared and this was reported by the defense at the trial of the Bradnoxes for murder. Before the case could be submitted to the jury, the captain died and charges against the widow were dismissed. Incidentally this is one of the three applications of the "Blood Test" in all Maryland history.⁸¹

Just where the justices held court may be seen from a quick perusal of the yellowing court proceedings which, thanks to modern techniques of preservation, have been so treated as to withstand handling and to prevent crumpling of the pages. The earliest entry is dated January 3, 1647 and refers to a session held in a private residence on Kent Island.⁸² The tribunal, to be sure, was not always without a permanent roof. In 1639 the old Kent Fort on the lower end of the isle was used by the Court of Kent Hundred. That location was abandoned for one more convenient on Broad Creek, also on the island.⁸³ Sooner or later, it fell

into disuse and sessions were again switched to homes large enough to accommodate the judges, the owners being paid a stated fee or rent.⁸⁴ Then and now, there was a decided preference for meeting in the homes of judges. Take for example the reimbursing of a judge twelve hundred pounds of tobacco in 1657 for keeping court three years in his house.⁸⁵ There are two passing references to a court house on Kent Island during the first two months of 1658-59; but in 1661 the judiciary fell back to its old routine of convening in private residences.⁸⁶ The growing practice of holding sessions in what is now Kent County was made permanent in July, 1672 by the Governor in an edict to the county justices, directing the removal of the court from Kent Island to neighboring Eastern Neck Island. Unfortunately the court proceedings from 1672 to 1675 disappeared during the last half of the nineteenth century.⁸⁷ Nevertheless, it is a stated fact that the court met a number of times over a period of years at "Wickliffe" on Eastern Neck Island, the picturesque home of Chief Justice Joseph Wickes who died in 1693. Said to be second to none among homes in 17th century Maryland, it remained in the Wickes' family for more than two hundred and forty years—finally passing out to strange hands in 1902. It was also famous as the birthplace of Captain Lambert Wickes, the illustrious naval officer, who was the great-grandson of the justice, an official of the highest echelon. A part of the original "Wickliffe" is embodied in a later structure.⁸⁸

After 1675 the court sat in New Yarmouth until the county seat was shifted further up the Chester. There are at least ten known references to the court in New Yarmouth: the first is dated August 28, 1683, the last April 6, 1696.⁸⁹ The present court house in Chestertown—a simplified Victorian relic of dull red brick—is the second to be built there. It bears a bronze tablet, placed in 1940 by the Historical Society of Kent County, which reads: "On this site stood the Court House built in 1707, which was burned and repaired in 1720. A new building was erected in 1860 and remodeled in 1937."⁹⁰

The minutiae of the county records paint the best picture of the manners, customs and economic fluctuations of a vanished era. Even their brittle pages, crackling with the sharp ring of age, have the power to transport the modern student to the time when survival was all-important, when politics was a knock-down and drag-out affair, when Indians were not to be taken lightly, when liberal bounties were paid by the county head for severed heads of the grey wolf whose bite was sure death, when self-styled chirurgeons clumsily ministered to the sick, when transported English convicts worked as manacled slaves.⁹¹ So diversified are the recorded facts that comparisons can be made between three centuries. Society, today's researcher will find, was almost non-existent in early Kent. It remained for eighteenth century Chestertown to usher in a high social life that was a brilliant echo of London's elegant drawing rooms. The criterion of wealth was landed property, the number of Negro slaves owned, livestock and tobacco. A person's standing was gauged by the office he held, the amount of property in his name, or by the influence he had with the responsible leaders of the Province. The majority of the people—human cogs in the development of the county and whose surnames interest only the occasional genealogist—were chained to the soil in an unending tug-of-war for a bare subsistence. Tobacco and corn were the day's principal crops and were so, undisputedly, for two hundred years. Tobacco was worth a king's ransom, it being long the medium of exchange out of which all salaries, fees, fines and taxes were paid. In 1650 one pound was worth three pence in English money.⁹²

If there were class distinctions, then those who had worked as indentured servants were at the lowest rung of the ladder. Short on cash but long as one's arm on courage, they came to the new world simply by bonding themselves as voluntary slaves to pay for their oversea transportation. Arriving at a Kent County port or elsewhere, the ship captain sold them like chattels to procurers for resale to plantation owners who wanted to supplement their Negro slave labor with skilled or semi-skilled workers. The average servant was a product of the laboring class of England, largely illiterate and not always all brawn for the hard work ordinarily expected of him in Kent County, although a few were well enough educated to be engaged as tutors. Indentured women servants were assigned domestic chores—and were sometimes prey to unscrupulous masters as is attested by references of assault and rape in court records. Worse off were the men servants, mostly overworked, browbeaten, punished for slight infractions, and neglected during time of illness. As specified by law, each indentured servant had to be set free after a certain period of time—usually seven years. And it was customary for the master to present the servant about to leave his service with a parcel of land and some livestock for a good start. Age was a most important factor in determining the length of bondage, the younger the servant the longer the service. Because of this, many youthful indentured servants barely in their teens, a number of them kidnapped from England, were haled before the Kent County court to have their chronological ages fixed.⁹³ Guesswork was the yardstick when proof was completely lacking or when personal appearances were deceiving. One frightened boy servant, for example, was adjudged only eleven years old and told he had ten more years to serve;⁹⁴ another lad, answering to the Dickensian name of James Bringergrass, had his age arbitrarily fixed at fourteen years and was further advised that his indenture still had eight more years to go unless he could prove he was older.⁹⁵

Because of the demands imposed upon them by unthinking masters and mistresses, many servants ran away, and court records are crowded with mention of runaways. Some were caught by Indians enlisted by policing authorities as stool pigeons. Rather than be returned to hated drudgery, many of the apprehended indentured servants in the Province committed suicide.⁹⁶ The standard punishment for running away was whipping and the adding of weeks or even months to the servitude.⁹⁷ One fugitive servant, described as a “constant runaway” by his irate master—a justice of the Kent County court—was whipped twenty-five times and sharply warned if he should escape again, any one finding him would have the right “to whip him home again to his master.”⁹⁸ Another unlucky servant was penalized by having his tenure stretched ten days for each day he was missing. Stringent measures were taken to prevent friendly or sympathetic persons from protecting or “entertaining” runaway servants, as the archaic language of the ancient records say. A fine of 1500 pounds of tobacco was slapped on a person in whose house an indentured servant was found. To make matters worse, he was ordered to beg for forgiveness in open court.⁹⁹

The day's hardships were to blame for the callous spirit and lack of understanding of some of the settlers. The average countian had too few outlets to stimulate his mind or broaden his perspective. Gambling, hunting, drinking and horse-racing were among the few pleasures open. The earliest known race track in Kent was the Yarmouth Race Ground outside of New Yarmouth,¹⁰⁰ and in the middle 1930s a racetrack was found on the outskirts of Chestertown when an aerial map of the county was being made. Again faded newspapers prove that

local residents were addicted to racing and boasted of having fashionable jockey clubs in Chestertown.¹⁰¹

Chronic drinking was too widespread in the seventeenth century to amount to a vice, despite penalties for the offense. Little could be done in face of the poor examples set down by some of the court justices and other public functionaries. Taverns were called ordinaries in the vernacular of the day; a reminiscent allusion to them is Tavern Creek near the Chesapeake in Kent County.¹⁰² Swan Tavern, in Chestertown, now converted into business premises, saw better days in the Revolutionary War: it played host to celebrities, among them George Washington and other members of the Continental Congress.¹⁰³ According to a preserved list in the court records, the typical drinks served in seventeenth century Kent were: molasses beer, brandy, sherry, port, claret, white wine, punch, Madeira wine, malt, cider, rum.¹⁰⁴

Culture and the enjoyment of the arts fell upon more appreciative tastes with the dawn of the eighteenth century. Indicative of a new order was the founding in Chestertown in 1730 of a society for the "Establishment and cultivating a good correspondence & Improvement of each others minds."¹⁰⁵ In addition there was the vogue of taking lessons from dancing and fencing masters, and plays were presented at the local theatre by itinerant English actors such as the celebrated Hallam and Henry whose renderings of "The Beggar's Opera" and Shakespeare's "Richard III" won local critical acclaim in 1752.¹⁰⁶ Music became almost a passion, too, and a grand opera was given at the end of the brief spring and fall racing sessions in Chestertown together with a ball, one of the most brilliant social functions of pre-Revolutionary Kent.¹⁰⁷

Such refinements may not have appealed to most of the masculine segment of the population. As an alternative there was the county militia which afforded opportunities for fraternizing, good-natured boisterousness and exchange of risqué stories. First set up in the late seventeenth century by the Province, it may be considered as the ancestor of the local unit of the National Guard. Like a fraternal order, it was generous in dispensing high-sounding titles: lieutenant, captain, major, and colonel. It explains why so many of the Kent County justices and sheriffs had military rank: Major Joseph Wickes, Captain Thomas Hynson, Colonel Thomas Ringgold, to name a few. It is interesting to know, too, that a blue flag which flew from the court house mast during the tercentenary celebration in August, 1942, in Chestertown was a replica of the original presented to the militia in 1694 by the Royal Governor. The banner was to replace the coal black and flaming heraldic proprietary standard of the Lords Baltimore during their temporary eclipse from power.¹⁰⁸

The only contacts with the outside world, say Europe, were the sea captains and the sailors who became animated newspapers when their ships docked in Kent County ports, although accuracy of reporting was almost unheard of. After the seventeenth century, the weekly *Maryland Gazette*—published in Annapolis—ranked second to the dog-eared family Bible, eagerly read and reread to the last period. Local news and gossip were relayed by mouth, usually becoming distorted or colored after a dozen rounds. Finally, in 1793, the county's first newspaper made its debut in Chestertown ambitiously as the *Apollo, or Chestertown Spy*, continuing under that bold label until July 26 of the year when it appeared under the conventional name of *Chestertown Gazette*.¹⁰⁹ A bloodhound for foreign news, it reported the trial and death of "Louis Capet" (the beheaded French king) and of the war between England and France. One edition darkly

hinted that Washington College had "royalists" on its faculty.¹¹⁰ Notices of escaped slaves vied with the news for attention. One Negro woman was simply described: "Being very worthless it has been absolutely necessary to chastise her. The marks of cowskin may be seen on her back."¹¹¹ For more than fifty years Chestertown had three competing weeklies, *The Chestertown Transcript* (founded in 1862) which merged with the older *Kent News* (founded in 1823) in 1946 to



Stephens House, Galena, Kent County

become the *Kent County News*¹¹² and the younger *Enterprise*, established in 1893 and now an independent newspaper published by the Kent Publishing Company, Incorporated.

Religion was a tower of strength in early Kent radiating spiritual nourishment and having a tempering influence upon the rough-and-tumble frontier life. The first church in what is now Kent County was built in 1652 in Eastern Neck, followed by New Yarmouth's St. Peter's Church, erected in 1674, and which was discarded twenty-four years later at the completion of the first building of St. Paul's Parish.¹¹³ What may be called the grandchild of the county's first church, if the one existing before 1634 on Kent Island is not to be considered, is the present brick, ivy-colored St. Paul's Church, constructed a second time in 1713, and which was one of the two parishes (the other Shrewsbury near the Sassafras) laid out in Kent County by the Provincial Assembly in 1692 to help intrench the Church of England in Maryland.¹¹⁴ As if acutely conscious of its past, St. Paul's basks in fame as the oldest continuously used house of worship in the State, and its simplicity of line is praised by architects, especially those with a reverent eye for the traditional. One of the high-backed pews, the kind that makes a person sit up straight like an exclamation point, has been occupied by one family for ten or more consecutive generations, a record unique in the State.¹¹⁵ Directly across the dirt road is the Sunday school house of weathered, white-painted brick. The date

of its erection—1766—is boldly but crudely splashed across one side in black paint.¹¹⁶ In the adjoining graveyard, arched over by giant oaks, are crumbling tombstones with epitaphs as fascinating for their quaint and sometimes sardonic phraseology as for their great age. One of the parish's rectors did not bother to stick to preaching; the Reverend James Sterling, D.D., a brilliant Irishman with whiplash energy that earned for him a footnote in local annals as the first collector of the port of Chestertown and later as clerk of the county court in 1751. When he died, the *Maryland Gazette* ran a flowery obituary framed with black, reverse-ruled borders.¹¹⁷

A sister parish is Shrewsbury Church—a mellowed brick edifice tucked away in a cemetery shaded by ancient oaks whose gnarled roots are like exaggerated veins on the hands of a person grown old beyond allotted scriptural span. It is the third to be built by the parishioners, put up in 1832 replacing an earlier one torn down five years previously.¹¹⁸ In addition, there are other old Episcopal churches: Chestertown's aging Emmanuel Church that started life as a parish chapel in 1770, and the many-windowed, brick I. U. Church at the head of Churn Creek, built in 1765. The former, its old charm lost during a remodeling job in the garish 1880s, is enshrined as the very spot where, in 1780, the representatives of the Church of England in America voted to adopt the term "Protestant Episcopal Church."¹¹⁹ Oddly, I. U. Church is so-called, runs a stubborn legend, from two initials resembling the letters of I. U. discovered deeply etched into a large boulder in the vicinity generations ago.¹²⁰

Because the Church of England dominated the religious scene in pre-Revolutionary Maryland, it does not necessarily mean that every Kent countian had to profess the Anglican faith. There were the sombrely-garbed Quakers or Friends whose soft-spoken thee's and thou's were a familiar sound in old-time Kent. Testifying to their erstwhile influence are such place-names as Meeting House Point near the Sassafras and Quaker Neck—a two-pronged promontory girdled by the Chester, settled in 1668 by a band of Quakers who soon built a meeting house on this location.¹²¹ Happily, Kent has a perfect specimen of a colonial meeting house near the incorporated town of Lynch. Firm as a rock, sturdy construction to take credit, it is a stout edifice of brick almost as good as the day it was opened in 1698.¹²² A stone's throw away is the burying yard dotted with abbreviated headstones recording only the dates of birth and death. If endowed with the power of speech, the meeting house would say it was in Cecil County at the time of its erection, hence its old name of "Old Cecil Meeting."¹²³ Methodism came into the ascendancy after the eighteenth century, the spade-work done by horseback riding parsons who won converts by the sheer force of evangelicism.

Architecture is a special pride of Kent County. It did not merely reflect changing tastes, but went further as a barometer of economic progress. Evidence is the varied diet of architecture representing all periods: the utilitarian manor house of the seventeenth century; the early, middle and late variations of the Georgian; the matronly, heavy-handed Victorian of the middle nineteenth century; the frilly, gingerbread of the 1880s and 1890s with the inevitable mansard roof; and the passing fads of the present century.

Time has not dealt kindly with the log cabins built by the first settlers—mostly rough shelters hurriedly thrown together, for none is in existence. Luckily, a small number of manor houses, largely modifications of English counterparts, still stand—modest, gambrel-roofed clapboard dwellings with leaded windows and pilastered chimneys. As the county grew to civilized maturity, building styles

kept pace with more amplitude and distinction. Closer attention, almost bordering the fastidious, was paid to good carpentry, exquisite ornamental paneling and doorways. By the middle eighteenth century, a pronounced Georgian character and ostentation crept into the wealthier homes in Chestertown. Although English styles were slavishly copied, a Dutch house still survives in refreshing contrast—the Comegy's House built about 1706 at Crumpton by a Dutchman's son. It is the only one of its kind on the Eastern Shore, and one of the two in all Maryland, the other being in Frederick County.¹²⁴



Mrs. William B. Usilton, III, on Steps and in Hallway, "Widehall"

On a smaller scale, Chestertown is to be taken as an ideal place to observe and admire the architecture of three centuries. There is the plain, ageless Palmer House with squint-like dormer windows and a sloping roof, built in 1692 by a sea captain, of stones used as ballast in ships.¹²⁵ And there is the rambling "Abbey," dating to 1736, whose lines show a self-conscious transition from the manor house to the early Georgian. Owned by Washington College as the president's house and renamed "Ringgold House" in honor of a former owner, its one outstanding feature is an eye-catching double stairway that spreads out like two welcoming arms.¹²⁶ Georgian architecture at its peak is typified by stately "Widehall," erected between 1732 and 1762.¹²⁷ Even to this day, when there are more building styles than ever, Georgian is still firmly rooted in Chestertown and one only has to look left and right for the proof.

Education in seventeenth century Kent, hardly measured to the name, was mostly in the hands of the women of the family or the more educated indentured servants. Illiteracy must have been painfully high, or there would be no scrawled "x'es" in the old records. The legal beginning of the present local system of free public education actually dates from 1825 when the legislature, in authorizing the office of state superintendent of schools, had the county laid out into school districts with three trustees in each.¹²⁸ The earliest public-supported school, however, was the Kent Free School with roots dating to 1706, and subsequently recon-

verted into Washington College by the Reverend Dr. William Smith, an intensely intelligent Scotsman, who secured a charter to that effect from the State in 1782. George Washington was the institution's most prominent patron: he donated 50 guineas to help get it going, permitted the use of his name, attended a play on the campus in his honor, accepted appointment to the Board of Visitors and Governors, and was awarded an LL.D. degree in 1789.¹²⁹ Honoring presidents of the United States with degrees has long been a cherished custom at Washington College—the latest recipients being Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1933¹³⁰ and Harry S. Truman in 1946,¹³¹ both taking time from cares of state to come to Chestertown to accept in person.

Water commerce in the early days was a bonanza and exploited for all it was worth. In the absence of industries or an integrated agrarian economy, it did much to shape the economic destinies of Kent until superseded by faster mechanized land transportation. If all the names of the ships that entered county waters up to the Revolution were recorded in chronological sequence, the list would be several pages long, with vessels from England and the West Indies predominating.¹³² So important was Chestertown as a shipping center—it was known as the "Eastern Shore Custom House"—in the colonial era that all departures and arrivals of ships in that port were faithfully recorded in the columns of the *Maryland Gazette*. As a customs district, Chestertown had all the necessary paraphernalia: a collector, a staff of assistants, a custom house and warehouses. Intact is the original custom house, built in 1694. Open for inspection anytime are its dark, dank dungeons for the incarcerating of obstreperous slaves and for the storing of costly wines and spirits.¹³³ After the Revolution a steady trade was established with Baltimore, a twice-a-week packet service for passengers and freight being in existence in 1793.¹³⁴ Gradually sailing vessels gave way to smoke-belching steamboats, the first of which, as far as is known, made its debut in Chestertown in March, 1827. Showering cinders and soot, it made the trip from Baltimore in seven hours, and passengers were requested not to urge extra speed.¹³⁵ This new wrinkle in transportation was not taken too kindly by nearby Rock Hall, founded in 1707 and named for the once plentiful rock fish, which was connected with Annapolis by swift packet ships carrying travelers to and fro. One Captain Harris, a packet owner, took matters into hand in resisting the new smoky rival. Such was his tooth-and-nail opposition that steamboats were forced to maneuver through the time-wasting, tortuous approaches to Gray's Inn Creek—two miles farther from Rock Hall.¹³⁶ With the passing of time, various steamboat lines were formed not only for trade with Baltimore, but for shuttle service between landings on the Chester and Sassafras rivers.¹³⁷ One by one, as if stricken with an incurable, mysterious plague, steamboats vanished from activity, some to be broken up into barges, until none was operating in Kent County waters by the first half of the twentieth century, except for the summer excursion steamers and the Tolchester ferry which has now been discontinued. To take the blame for this state of affairs is the motor vehicle—the first appeared in Chestertown in August, 1900, puffing its way from Tolchester in fifty minutes.¹³⁸ Another villain was the Iron Horse. The year 1868 saw the contract let out to build the county's first railroad, to run from near Masseys, by way of Kennedyville, to Chestertown, and thence to the terminus on Swan's Creek—a distance of 32.09 miles.¹³⁹

Transportation was also the builder of towns. Water traffic promoted the growth of Chestertown, Rock Hall, Betterton, Georgetown, Crumpton—all still on good, protected harbors that did justice to ocean-going vessels of a long gone

yesteryear. A co-operating ally was the jolting, overland stage coach with its team of sure-footed horses. Whenever a spot or an inn was chosen as a stop on the colonial post road to Philadelphia, the nucleus of a village sooner or later took root such as Galena, an inland community originally known as Downs' Cross-roads because of the location of William Downs' Tavern which burned in 1893 after 130 years of business.¹⁴⁰ Again Rock Hall owes its development to the stage coach and the Annapolis packets. Like an European boat train, the stage met the packets to take on disembarking passengers for points north and to New Castle, Delaware, for the boat to Philadelphia or the New Jersey ferry. Georgetown, now in a minor rôle as the gateway from the north to Kent County, was in its heyday a teeming port and stage stop.¹⁴¹

Because they were too busy taming nature, the settlers got along without towns in the county before the 1660s. As a matter of fact, population was too thinly spread out to warrant them. Instead ships from England and elsewhere anchored in the Chester and Sassafras rivers or in a sheltered cove immediately off the Chesapeake, unloading and loading cargoes with the aid of improvised barges. Or, unless such facilities were provided, they docked at wharves extending from waterfront plantations which were designated as landing or transfer cargo centers. Falling in this category was the plantation on Morgan's Creek, owned by Captain Henry Morgan, a sheriff of the county, which was first appointed a port of entry in 1668 by the Province, and for the third and last time in 1671.¹⁴²

The first county town was New Yarmouth—founded in 1675 through the efforts of Major James Ringgold and a former merchant from Bristol, England. Twenty-one years later, in a death blow to the new town, the Assembly ordered the building of a new court house at a more advantageous location. The site was on the Chester River about eight miles from Chestertown, only to be shortly abandoned for where the present county seat now stands. The rejected location was for a time called Old Town, while Chestertown was called New Town. Other towns ordered laid out in Kent County by the Province were, although some may have existed on paper only: Canterbury Town—in 1686 at Meeting House Point;¹⁴⁴ Gloucester Town—in 1688 on Langford's Bay; Milford Town on Swan Creek in 1686;¹⁴⁵ and Shrewsbury Town—in 1683 not far from where stood the primitive Indian village of Tochwagh visited by Captain John Smith. After several gasps for survival, Shrewsbury Town vanished from the scene as did Bridgetown, founded in 1732, near the Delaware border.¹⁴⁶

A good idea of the fevered activity of Gray's Inn Creek—New Yarmouth's harbor—may be seen in an antique wooden fireside panel oil painting at the Maryland Historical Society in Baltimore, the gift of the famous Wickes family of Kent County in 1900. Faded from age, and executed by an anonymous artist, it shows the creek crowded with vessels including brigs, schooners, sloops and small bay craft, all flying outsized Union Jacks. In the background are three warehouses propped up by splintery poles and three other houses edging the creek. Suspended from the panel is a hand-carved relief of a sloop.¹⁴⁷

Scattered references in contemporary records present a picture of New Yarmouth as a typical frontier outpost of English America—buoyant and lusty with pioneering, coarse and bad-mannered from too little contact with civilizing refinements. Monotony was relieved by the more sensational trials in the court house, built in 1678 from proceeds raised by a county-wide levy, and for morbid excitement there were the pillory, whipping post, and stocks outside the jail. For the religious, there was St. Peter's Church; for amusement and small talk, there was

Joce's popular tavern; for the inveterate sports lover, there was the Yarmouth Race Ground; for traveling, there was the subsidized ferry service to Kent Island and the thoroughfare to Eastern Neck Island. Industry was had in form of two shipyards which built and outfitted ships for English ports—one named "The Torrington Loyalty," launched in 1697 for Torrington, England. Private houses, each built to specified dimensions, faced a common pasture land.¹⁴⁸

New Yarmouth's reincarnation is modern Chestertown—exactly fifteen miles from the green Chesapeake and right on the Chester which, by the way, should be dubbed "Old Man River" for having seen so much. A county seat since its official founding in 1706, even though its beginnings can be traced to 1698, it was long called New Town, getting the present name in 1780 when the charter was revised.^{149*} Prior to the Revolution, it was a port of entry for the counties of Cecil, Kent and Queen Anne's. Before it finally sobered down, Chestertown was, in its early days, a gaudy, jaunty town, with sailors and sea captains drinking and roistering; pigs, sheep and fowl roaming the streets at will, the nuisance to be stopped in 1732 when children were reported in danger of being "devoured" by the bigger hogs;¹⁵⁰ gay blades riding, with a great ado, to the races, gambling over big stakes, swearing with a finesse, and taking lessons in fencing and dancing. Such was the worldliness that Bishop Asbury, on a visit in 1786, was shocked and wrote angrily in his journal that Chestertown was "a very wicked place."¹⁵¹

Progress may have the upper hand, but the town still wears the unexpungeable odor of a crowded past on its label. The flavor of the eighteenth century lingers on in the red brick Georgian mansions. A bit of Old London is Water Street, overlooking the tranquil Chester, lined with its row of mellowed houses, some dating to pre-Revolutionary days. Even busy Princess Street reflects a sneaking veneration in its name for British royalty. Some of old Chestertown went up in flames in September, 1910, when fire swept the business district, destroying twenty stores and six houses.¹⁵²

Not always was Chestertown the well-mannered town, reputed for its polite society and chronic addiction to proper etiquette. In 1774, enflamed by the tea tax, a band of angry citizens boarded a British brigantine—the *Geddes*—in the Chester River and threw overboard cargoes of tea. Again, before the Revolution broke out, it thumbed defiance at England by sending a ship provisioned with supplies to the beleaguered inhabitants of Boston and Charlestown during the British blockade of these ports. In due time letters of thanks were dispatched to Chestertown by the aided New England communities.¹⁵³

Mindful of a great past, Chestertown prefers to be known as an up-and-going county capital and college town looking forward to the future with fewer and fewer glances over its shoulder. This attitude is only typical of modern Kent County: in a sense it is a sign of full maturity—at once reflective of the confidence gained from a long past to face the future resolutely.

More could be said of Kent County's long, stirring history as one small representative part of America and especially of her rôle in helping form and mold the national character: that would require volumes. Yet a brief review brings out the salient factors that transformed the county from a stretch of primeval wilderness into an integral spoke in Maryland's economic, political, and social wheel. In short Kent is all the richer for the lessons of a full, wise, and experienced past.

* Chestertown as we now know it was laid out anew in 1730. (*Kilty's Laws of Maryland*, Chapter XV, 1730; Liber L. No. 5, p. 263.)

NOTES, CHAPTER XLV

1. Robert L. Swain, Jr., *Creeks and Manors of Old Kent* (1938), p. 1. Published in pamphlet form by the Enterprise Company, Chestertown, Md., wholly based on original sources.
2. *Baltimore Sun*, August 2, 1942, March 24, 1940.
3. Hulbert Footner, *Rivers of the Eastern Shore* (1914), p. 326.
4. *Baltimore Sun*, March 24, 1940.
5. *Ibid.*
6. Footner, *Rivers of the Eastern Shore*, p. 326.
7. W. C. Thurston (ed.) *The Eastern Shore of Maryland in Song and Story* (1938), pp. 62-63; *Encyclopaedia Americana*, XVIII, p. 357.
8. Fred G. Usilton, *History of Kent County, Maryland* (1916), pp. 78-80.
9. Footner, *Rivers of The Eastern Shore*, p. 314.
10. Robert L. Swain, Jr., *Colonial Saint Paul's Parish* (1938), pp. 1-6. Published in pamphlet form by the Enterprise Company, Chestertown, Md., wholly based on original sources; Percy G. Skirven, "Seven Pioneers of the Colonial Eastern Shore," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XV, No. 3 (September, 1920), p. 241.
11. American Council on Education, *American Universities and Colleges* (1936), p. 953.
12. Swepson Earle, *The Chesapeake Bay Country* (1924), p. 286.
13. *Dictionary of American Biography* (1931), XX, p. 180.
14. Usilton, *op. cit.*, pp. 161-162.
15. Raphael Semmes, *Crimes and Punishment in Early Maryland* (1938), p. 19.
16. Percy C. Skirven, *The First Parishes of the Province of Maryland* (1923), p. 114.
17. Usilton, *op. cit.*, p. 146.
18. *Life*, March 30, 1942.
19. *Ibid.*
20. Esther M. Dole, *Maryland During the American Revolution* (1941), pp. 186-187.
21. *Dictionary of American Biography*, XIII, pp. 502-504; Earle, *The Chesapeake Bay Country*, pp. 287-288; Paul Wiltach, *Tidewater Maryland* (1931), pp. 103, 113, 133, 253.
22. Usilton, *op. cit.*, pp. 144-146; *Dictionary of American Biography*, XIII, pp. 357-358.
23. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State* (1940, WPA Project), p. 368.
24. *Baltimore Sun*, August 2, 1942.
25. Earle, *The Chesapeake Bay Country*, p. 286.
26. Usilton, *op. cit.*, p. 185.
27. *Ibid.*, pp. 41-60; *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 385.
28. Usilton, *op. cit.*, pp. 64-74; *New York Herald Tribune*, Feb. 9, 1949; *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, pp. 365-366.
29. Footner, *Rivers of the Eastern Shore*, pp. 340-341.
30. Usilton, *op. cit.*, p. 130; Earle, *The Chesapeake Bay Country*, p. 315.
31. Usilton, *op. cit.*, p. 130.
32. *Ibid.*, pp. 193-194.
33. *Ibid.*, pp. 33-40; Footner, *Rivers of the Eastern Shore*, pp. 237-238.
34. Earle, *The Chesapeake Bay Country*, p. 290.
35. Usilton, *op. cit.*, pp. 140-146; *Dictionary of American Biography*, XX, p. 564; Bernard C. Steiner, "Some Letters From the Correspondence of James Alfred Pearce," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XVI, No. 2 (June, 1921), pp. 150-178; also *Biographical Dictionary of the American Congress, 1774-1927*, p. 1233.
36. Usilton, *op. cit.*, pp. 204-205. See the general narrative.
37. Semmes, *op. cit.*, pp. 9, 93, 96-98, 101-105, 127, 146-147, 162, 178-179, 234, 253. *Archives of Maryland*, LIV, for further references.

38. *Baltimore Sun*, August 2, 1942; *New York Times*, August 2, 1942.
39. For information about seal, see Robert L. Swain, Jr., *Royal Emblems of Kent County* (1940).
40. See Dr. J. Hall Pleasant's Letter of Transmittal in *Archives of Maryland*, XLIX; Oswald Tilghman, *History of Talbot County, 1661-1861* (1915), II; William R. Howell, *The Government of Kent County, Maryland* (1931), pp. 9-10.
41. Swain, *Creeks and Manors of Old Kent*, p. 11.
42. Howell, *op. cit.*, pp. 1-2.
43. *Archives of Maryland*, LIV, p. xii.
44. *Ibid.*
45. Howell, *op. cit.*, pp. 1-11.
46. Footner, *Rivers of the Eastern Shore*, p. 39.
47. *Archives of Maryland*, I, pp. 55-57.
48. *Ibid.*, XLIX. See Letter of Transmittal.
49. *Ibid.*
50. *Ibid.*, also LIV, p. xix; Howell, *op. cit.*, p. 56, *Laws of Maryland*, 1787, Chapter 33.
51. Howell, *op. cit.*, pp. 23, 39, 63, 73, 78, 90, 96.
52. *Ibid.*, pp. 19-20.
53. *Archives of Maryland*, LIV, p. xix.
54. Wilstach, *Tidewater Maryland*, pp. 46-47.
55. Swain, *Creeks and Manors of Old Kent*, p. 3.
56. *Maryland Gardens and Houses* (1938) p. 94.
57. Wilstach, *Tidewater Maryland*, p. 49.
58. Swain, *Creeks and Manors of Old Kent*, pp. 8-9.
59. Wilstach, *Tidewater Maryland*, pp. 48-50.
60. Swain, *Creeks and Manors of Old Kent*, p. 9.
61. *Ibid.*, p. 8.
62. *Ibid.*, pp. 1-12.
63. *Archives of Maryland*, LIV, p. 189; another reference to "divisions" appears in *ibid.*, p. 273.
64. *Ibid.*, LIV, pp. 11-12.
65. *Ibid.*, XXIII, p. 25.
66. Wilstach, *Tidewater Maryland*, p. 51.
67. Howell, *op. cit.* See profile map of county, opposite p. 18.
68. Semmes, *op. cit.*, pp. 1-20.
69. *Ibid.*, pp. 12-13.
70. *Ibid.*, p. 14. *Maryland Manual*, 1948-1949, p. 167.
71. Howell, *op. cit.*, pp. 55-58.
72. *Archives of Maryland*, LIV, p. 85.
73. *Ibid.*, p. 85.
74. Semmes, *op. cit.*, pp. 1-20.
75. *Ibid.*, p. 192.
76. *Ibid.*, p. 63.
77. *Archives of Maryland*, LIV, p. 273; *Chestertown Enterprise*, August 21, 1940.
78. Usilton, *op. cit.*, p. 192.
79. Semmes, *op. cit.*, pp. 35, 69-70; *Archives of Maryland*, I, p. 455.
80. *The Maryland Gazette*, June 14, 1745.
81. Semmes, *op. cit.*, pp. 103-104, 126-127.
82. Liber A, *Court Proceedings of Kent County*.
83. *Archives of Maryland*, LIV, p. 104.
84. *Ibid.*, LIV, pp. 152, 154, 224, 233, 317.
85. *Ibid.*
86. *Ibid.*, p. xix.
87. *Ibid.*

88. Footner, *Rivers of the Eastern Shore*, pp. 313-314.
89. Robert L. Swain, Jr., *New Yarmouth, A Town of a Vanished Era, 1675-1697* (1937), pp. 8, 17. Pamphlet published by Washington College, Chestertown, Md., and based on original sources. Hereafter referred to as *New Yarmouth*.
90. *Baltimore Sun*, August 2, 1942.
91. Swain, *New Yarmouth*.
92. Usilton, *op. cit.*, p. 32.
93. Semmes, *op. cit.*, pp. 87, 93, 96-98, 104-105, 118. For further information on indentured servants in Maryland, consult Abbot Emerson Smith, *Colonists in Bondage* (1948).
94. Semmes, *op. cit.*, p. 87.
95. *Archives of Maryland*, LIV, p. 286.
96. Semmes, *op. cit.* See index, p. 332 (Indentured Servants).
97. *Ibid.*, pp. 116-118.
98. *Ibid.*, p. 118.
99. *Ibid.*, pp. 115-116.
100. Swain, *New Yarmouth*, p. 15.
101. Usilton, *op. cit.*, p. 182.
102. Swain, *Creeks and Manors of Old Kent*, p. 8.
103. Henry G. Alsberg (ed.), *American Guide Series* (1949), p. 408.
104. Liber I, *Court Proceedings, 1676-1695*, p. 194 (Kent County Records).
105. Liber I, p. 1 (Kent County Records).
106. Usilton, *op. cit.*, p. 182; Footner, *The Rivers of the Eastern Shore*, pp. 326-329.
107. *Ibid.*
108. Swain, *Royal Emblems of Kent County*.
109. *Baltimore Sun*, April 1, 1928.
110. *Ibid.*
111. *Ibid.*
112. Usilton, *op. cit.*, pp. 202-203.
113. Swain, *Colonial Saint Paul's Parish*, pp. 1-2. Also see Dr. Berckley's map of old Parish Churches of Maryland.
114. *Ibid.*
115. *Ibid.*, p. 4.
116. *Ibid.*, p. 5.
117. Robert L. Swain, Jr., *Chestertown as a Colonial Port, 1706-1775* (1936), pp. 4-5. Pamphlet, based on original sources, published by Washington College, Chestertown, Maryland; *Maryland Gazette*, Nov. 17, 1763; *Letters of Governor Sharpe*, II, p. 437, "Papers Relating to Officers of the Customs in North America," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XXVII, No. 3 (September, 1932), p. 236.
118. Usilton, *op. cit.*, pp. 72-74.
119. Elmer Jenkins (ed.) *Guide to America* (1949), p. 272; *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 368.
120. Usilton, *op. cit.*, pp. 92-94.
121. *Ibid.*, pp. 88-89.
122. *Ibid.*, Elizabeth Chandlee Forman, *Old Cecil Meeting on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, 1696-1900* (n.d., n.p.—pamphlet), p. 7.
123. *Ibid.*
124. *Ibid.*, p. 249.
125. Alsberg, *op. cit.*, p. 408.
126. Katherine Scarborough, *Homes of the Cavaliers* (1930), pp. 233-242; *Maryland Gardens and Houses*, p. 92.
127. *Ibid.*
128. Howell, *op. cit.*, pp. 109-117; Wilstach, *Tidewater Maryland*, pp. 84-85.
129. Wilstach, *Tidewater Maryland*, pp. 85, 134, 341; Earle, *The Chesapeake Bay Country*, pp. 493-501; *American Universities and Colleges* (1936 ed.), p. 953.

130. *Baltimore Sun*, Oct. 21, 1933, Oct. 22, 1933.
131. *Ibid.*, June 1, 1946.
132. Swain, *Chestertown as a Colonial Port, 1706-1775*, pp. 7-15.
133. *Ibid.*, p. 5.
134. *Baltimore Sun*, April 1, 1928.
135. Usilton, *op. cit.*, p. 114.
136. *Ibid.*, pp. 205-208.
137. *Ibid.*, pp. 114-118.
138. *Ibid.*, p. 188.
139. *Ibid.*, pp. 119-122.
140. Swain, *Creeks and Manors of Old Kent*, p. 12; *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 365.
141. Swain, *Creeks and Manors of Old Kent*, p. 12.
142. *Ibid.*, p. 2.
143. Swain, *New Yarmouth*, pp. 16-17.
144. *Archives of Maryland*, V, pp. 500-502.
145. Bacon, *Laws of Maryland, 1686*, Chapter II.
146. *Ibid.*, pp. 1, 11.
147. *Maryland History Notes* (Maryland Historical Society), May, 1943.
148. Swain, *New Yarmouth*, pp. 3-13, 15.
149. *Ibid.*; Swain, *Chestertown as a Colonial Port, 1706-1775*, pp. 1-2; *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 366.
150. *Archives of Maryland*, XXXVII, pp. 452, 492, 516.
151. Footner, *Rivers of the Eastern Shore*, p. 329.
152. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 366.
153. Usilton, *op. cit.*, p. 182.

CHAPTER XLVI

Talbot County, Maryland

A History

By Homer Bast

I. TALBOT COUNTY EMERGES: 1658-1790

Introduction to a Way of Life—Named at its birth for an aristocrat, Talbot County until the American Revolution never pretended to be anything but a provincial oligarchy. As soon as it set up a local government in 1661, it began manifesting a spirit of independence. The ruling Calverts could seldom forget that the Talbot squires had ideas and interests of their own. As the County expanded and became more populous, the citizens grew increasingly loyal to a Protestant throne, and evinced scant regard for religious toleration. Eventually the predominant Anglicanism was almost washed away by the enthusiasm of the evangelical sects.

But religion was not the predominant moving force in the lives of these countrymen. Education, available only to the well-to-do, was even less so. Talbot was an agricultural county. Its people, isolated by bad roads, spent their days in the struggle to raise enough tobacco to live.

Most of the original land patents were issued to small holders who worked their own farms. The indentured servants, and later the slaves that were imported in large numbers, gradually came into the hands of the ruling plantation owners. So did many of the smaller farms. These squires could deal directly with the English and French merchants, thereby saving the middleman's fee in both buying and selling. With suffrage limited to landholders and property owners, the squirearchy controlled politics. Even the rough-and-ready justice administered by the County courts took exception to the pécadillos of the plantation owners. Though Oxford once seemed on its way to becoming an important port, wars and economic difficulties made it a ghost town before an urban middle-class could be established.

Social life, except in the big houses along the rivers, was confined to the taverns that sprang up near each court town. Amusements were the familiar English outdoor sports and games.

It was not until after the Revolution, when the yeomen farmers who had found themselves in command of companies of their neighbors, returned to stage a short-lived political revolt, that the right of government by the conservative planters was even challenged.

The County is Established—By 1658 the Eastern Shore Indians had been pacified and state wide political and religious problems had been adjusted. A rapid influx of settlers and indentured servants consequently began to settle on

plantations about the Choptank, Tred Avon, Wye and Miles River regions. Between October 13, 1658, and January 31, 1660, approximately 20,000 acres of land was surveyed for 35 patentees. The largest of these tracts was one of 3,050 acres marked out for Edward Lloyd, esquire, the founder of a family that was to share with a few others the political dominance of the county for more than a century. The two smallest were single 100-acre grants for John Salter and Anthony Griffin.¹ Undoubtedly, though, land about the Choptank and Tred Avon rivers was settled prior to this, for there is mention in 1658 of Captain Samuel Tilghman's vessel, the *Golden Fortune*, loading tobacco on the "Strand." The large number of colonists coming into the area created serious administrative problems for Kent County. These were not rectified until the formation of the new county of Talbot, named for Grace Talbot, wife of Sir Robert Talbot and sister of Cecilius Calvert, the second Lord Baltimore. A temporary sheriff and commissioners were appointed February 18, 1661-1662, to exercise authority over the area between the headwaters of the Choptank and the Chester rivers, eastward to the Delaware line.²

With the establishment of the county a governmental organization was put into operation. The most important cog in the local political machinery was the monthly or county court. The chief administrative officer, however, was the sheriff.³ Then, there was the constable for each hundred, appointed by the justices of the peace. Another important officer was the clerk of the county court. In 1692 William Finney was named "Register of Wills," thus rounding out the list of county officials.⁴

The first civil divisions of Talbot were called hundreds. By 1696 nine hundreds had been created, but in 1707, after the formation of Queen Anne's County from Talbot, there were but seven hundreds listed. So the civil districts of Talbot remained until 1799 when a commission was appointed to divide the County into the four election districts of Easton, St. Michaels, Trappe and Chapel.⁵ A fifth district, Bay Hundred, was created in 1852.

For many years court was held in private homes on the Wye River near the geographic center of population. The first or organizational court met at Mr. William Coursey's, on April 25, 1662. In 1674 the subject of building a court house was discussed. The next year a new court house was built on the land purchased from Hopkinson in 1675 on Skipton Creek. Apparently the court met here until 1679, when it moved to a tavern kept by Elizabeth Winkles at Wye Landing. A village grew up about this seat of justice. By June 20, 1693, it had become known as York.⁶ Meanwhile, population grew by leaps and bounds. The increased business of the court required additional facilities, and with the spread of population, people began to feel that the county seat should be more accessible. Accordingly, petitions were made to the Provincial Assembly for the organization of a new county. In April, 1706, therefore, in deference to the will of the people, Queen Anne's County was formed from and to the north of Talbot. The Act of the General Assembly of 1706 defined Talbot's boundaries.⁷ At the same time a commission was appointed to select a central location for the meetings of the court. Oxford, the most important town on the Shore, was thought the most logical place, and court was held there on August 19, 1707, at the home of Sheriff Daniel Sherwood.⁸

Although it was determined that Oxford should be the permanent seat of justice, the idea was never carried out. An Act of the Assembly of November 4, 1710, authorized the Talbot justices to purchase "two acres of land at or near

Pitt's Bridge, at the head of the Tread Haven Creek, on Philemon Armstrong's Land," on which a county court house was to be constructed. At this time a contract was drawn up with Philemon Hemsley for erection of the new court house. The structure had reached the stage in June, 1712, so that court could be held. By the next year the jail had been finished. As was usual at any seat of justice, a village soon grew up. It was called, of course, Talbot Court House.⁹



Dickinson House, Trappe, Talbot County

Thus by the eighteenth century the Talbot people had cleared out a small area of settlement on the Chesapeake Bay and had planted there the political institutions to which they had been accustomed. Local administration had assumed the form it was to retain, with some modifications, until the present.

The Squires Assert Their Independence—Meanwhile there was considerable criticism of the ruling Calverts. The people resented the proprietor's governor and his little group of office holders—the large planters and council. The proprietor was also their landlord; his private interests were at odds with theirs. Religious differences interfered with the mutual understanding so necessary for harmonious living. Much friction, too, had developed between the proprietors and the representative Assembly.¹⁰ There were two parties in Talbot. The wealthy, well-born aristocrats favored the Proprietary, while the poorer elements wanted to see Maryland become a crown colony. Maryland became a crown colony and the people found themselves under the control of the King. A delegate from Talbot, Robert Smith, became Speaker of the Assembly in 1694,¹¹ while friction between the King's Governor and the Lower House broke out almost immediately. This discord was to continue until 1775.

During the time of royal dominion, 1689-1715, Talbot was beset with many difficulties. It was the period of King William's War, 1689-1697, and Queen Anne's War, 1702-1713. Although the county was not immediately concerned nor directly threatened, occasionally French and Spanish privateers did some

damage to the plantations. In 1695 Talbot assisted the war effort by filling her quota of men, money, and supplies.¹² As was natural during these years, immigration dropped off. Universal toleration had ceased, lands were no longer given as bounty, and the fluctuations of the tobacco trade caused a severe economic depression. Despite this Talbot, with 4,178 people, was the second most thickly populated county in the state in 1712. With the return of peace the outlook changed, and there followed a period of economic expansion.¹³

In 1715, in an unprecedented step, the Crown turned the rule of the colony back to the Baltimore family; but no appreciable change in government occurred. Public opinion in Talbot still ran against the Catholics. But generally life went on in the same manner.

In 1739 England and Spain went to war. Talbot willingly assumed her financial and moral obligations. To meet the expense of an expedition to Cartagena, one of the Spanish dominions in the new world, the Maryland Legislature called upon the counties to raise and equip 500 volunteers. Talbot immediately voted men and money for the proposed undertaking. Somewhat later the county again contributed to the support of an expedition into Canada. In fact Talbot men were among the groups sailing from Annapolis in the summer of 1746 "with cheerful hearts, in high spirits and all well clothed."¹⁴ But before these men could face the French, the war was terminated.

The treaty proved to be only a truce, for shortly the French and Indian War broke out. Once again Talbot responded to the plea of the mother country for money and men. In July, 1755, came the defeat of Braddock. This spread terror throughout the province, as did thoughts of French privateers entering the reaches of the Talbot rivers.

Contemporaneous with this war was another question with which the Talbotians wrestled: the disposition of the Acadians. These French Catholics were moved from their homes in Acadia to the Atlantic sea coast. A part of this migration landed at Oxford at an unpropitious time. Feelings ran high in those turbulent times and the Acadians were viewed with suspicion. Even the charity they received was grudgingly bestowed.¹⁵

By 1759, however, British naval superiority was evident, and the Talbotians ceased to worry about French attacks. The county had responded loyally to the request of William Pitt for help in the common cause. Even when Spain entered the war on the side of France, the Talbotians were substantially secure, for England still maintained her supremacy on the sea. However, it was with great relief that Talbot finally learned of the Treaty of Paris, with its promise of resumption of foreign trade.

Religion—a Necessity; Education—a Luxury—To the Church of England belongs the credit of making the first attempt to establish a Christian church in Talbot. From the time of its settling there were usually several Anglican clergymen in the county. In fact the southward movement of population from Kent Island carried the church along with it. At a very early date a church was constructed near the Wye River. Here at St. Luke's the early settlers worshipped.¹⁶

At the same time the Quakers established one of their meeting houses on the Tred Avon. When Calvert had granted them permission to settle in Maryland as an asylum from their oppressors in Virginia, rather large numbers of these people came to Talbot. By 1697 a frame building for public worship had been erected by the Quakers at the head of Trippe's Creek. This meeting house and

the three smaller ones that were built elsewhere also served secular purposes. They were the center for commercial transactions between planters and ship captains. The heterogeneous character of these meetings made some of them rather disorderly, and brought on the Prohibitory Act forbidding the sale of liquor within a mile of the meeting place.¹⁷

In 1692 the Church of England was made the established church in Maryland, thus putting an end to religious equality. The first act for the establishment of religion provided that every county should be laid out in parishes.¹⁸ Accordingly Talbot was divided into St. Paul's, St. Peter's, and St. Michael's parishes.

As settlers moved into sections remote from the parish churches, it became necessary to provide additional houses of worship. The clergy uniformly opposed any divisions in geographical extent of the parishes, so chapels of ease were erected. One of the earliest of these was constructed about 1731 near the present village of Chapel. The Reverend Daniel Maynadier of St. Peter's parish held services here. In 1762 this mission was given the name of Tuckahoe Chapel. However, by 1790 the chapel was apparently abandoned and services for St. Peter's parish were held alternately in the court house at Easton and White Marsh Church. With its desertion, decay set in, and by 1808 the chapel had entirely disappeared.¹⁹ In the meantime Easton's importance made it mandatory that an Episcopal Church be started there. Land was purchased in 1799 from Samuel Baldwin and on August 23, 1800, the cornerstone of a new church was laid by Samuel Chamberlane, esquire.²⁰ Funds were derived from the sale of pews. This church was used for services until 1845, when the Christ Church was occupied by the congregation.

Although Maryland was settled under Roman Catholic dominance, there is little evidence that this group was ever very strong in Talbot. It does seem, however, that by 1700 there was a Roman Catholic chapel at the mouth of the Wye River. With the coming of a Jesuit priest, Joseph Mosely, to the Eastern Shore in 1760, and the elimination of prejudices against the faith, the Catholic renaissance began. Later, probably with a view to founding another mission, Father Mosely purchased 350 acres of land in the Chapel district.²¹

By 1774 the Methodists had for all practical purposes separated from the Church of England. Prior to this time, in fact in 1763, there was a society of Calvinistic Methodists in Queen Anne's. Undoubtedly their influence seeped over into Talbot, for in 1774 the circuit of Kent was formed. In 1777 Joseph Cromwell,²² having been sent to the Kent Circuit to preach, carried the gospel into Wye, St. Michaels and Bayside. The next year the Reverend Freeborn Garrettson, in charge of the Kent Circuit, arrived in Talbot where he labored at the task of organizing and uniting his followers into societies. These societies were still considered to be in the Church of England even though the Church as an establishment had disappeared with the adoption of the constitution of Maryland in 1776. At the time of the appearance of these circuit riders, religion was at a low ebb. Three churches and two chapels of ease were Anglican; the Friends had four meeting houses, one at the head of Harris's Creek, one near Easton, one near Trappe, and one in Tuckahoe; while the Catholics had the mission chapel at St. Joseph's. These were to accommodate a population of about 12,000 people. When the Methodists came, the few churches were closed to them. Consequently, meetings were held in open fields, private homes and barns. Camp meetings were adopted later to care for the vast throngs who assembled to hear the preachers. The spread of this new faith was swift. In 1778 the first Talbot Methodist societies were founded; by 1817 four churches had been built.²³ Their followers could

be counted in thousands. It was a personal religion which stressed the necessity of conversion. Combining an emotional appeal with practicability and organizing power, the march was well nigh irresistible.

References to Baptists are few in the days prior to the Revolution.

In the seventeenth century our ancestors, whatever their faith, took a serious interest in their church. By the next century, however, most of the sects had become conventionalized and cold, while worldliness had crept into the Anglican faith. Despite the comfortable respectability and the prosperity of religion, there was still a reverential attitude toward it. Not only was there a Bible in almost every home, but also it was accepted as the word of God, and no question was raised regarding its infallibility.

In Talbot the English tradition in favor of private schools was strong during the Colonial Period. Nevertheless, several attempts were made to inaugurate a system of public education. In the last decade of the seventeenth century, the Maryland Assembly voted to create a corporation authorized to receive gifts of land for the endowment of a school at Oxford (Williamstadt). But without money little could be accomplished. The Assembly next voted that certain duties on fur, beef and bacon be set aside as a fund to establish schools. By 1723 it had grown to a point where the Assembly felt justified in appointing a school board for Talbot. With part of this fund and money obtained from private sources, the board of seven visitors²⁴ were to establish a school at the most suitable location. They were further encouraged to erect the necessary school and farm buildings and to hire Anglican masters, qualified to teach mathematics, grammar and good writing.²⁵ In 1727 the Board of Visitors selected a parcel of land lying between the Tred Avon and St. Michaels rivers, part of a large tract called Tilghman's Fortune. Here buildings were erected, and a school organized. The curates and readers of the parishes of St. Michaels and St. Peters served for a time as masters. In certain instances, however, tutors were hired.²⁶ Salaries were small, but the master supplemented his income by charging a tuition fee for those able to pay. He was required, however, to teach as many charity pupils as the Visitors should designate. Under such conditions the life of this institution was fraught with difficulties. By 1750 the Assembly had pronounced the school a failure. Because of financial troubles its doors were closed, and before further provision could be made for its support, the buildings were destroyed by fire. On April 1, 1783, the land was sold to John Stevens. The debts were paid off and the remainder of the proceeds from the sale of the land was given to Washington College.

Instead of the public school, reliance of necessity was placed on private agencies, mainly the home and the church. The landed gentry employed tutors for their children or sent them to neighborhood conscription schools or to private academies, where they could avail themselves of the master's service by paying a stipulated fee. But the success of these schools depended solely on the character and ability of the teachers.

Because of the sharp class distinctions, the poverty of many people, and the geographical conditions, a large proportion of the population received little formal education. Throughout the eighteenth century the people of Talbot struggled with the problem. In 1746 the Reverend Dr. Thomas Bacon, rector of St. Peter's parish, formed a plan of instructing the poor. After an enormous amount of work in securing donations, he purchased 143 acres of land between White Marsh Church and Oxford. Construction was commenced in 1753. Two years later the building was completed and the Charity Working School opened.

Like the other attempts, this too failed. In May, 1789, the entire property was sold for one shilling to the Trustees of the Alms and Work House.²⁷

The Quakers as well, by the time of the Revolution, were encouraging private elementary education. On November 25, 1779, at a monthly meeting of the Society of Friends at Third Haven, it was reported and advised by a special committee that a "suitable school for the instruction of youth in useful learning be erected." In 1782 the school house was completed and a Mr. Samuel Hutton was appointed as master.²⁸ But real education was by no means confined to formal educational institutions. The history of the county is replete with examples of self-made men and women.

The Plight of the Small Farmer—The basis of wealth was land, and farming was the most important industry. It was not only profitable, it was essential to the existence of the people. Hot summers and long periods of cultivation made this region especially suitable to the production of tobacco. Throughout the Colonial Period it remained the staple crop and almost the sole export. Wheat, barley, oats and corn were grown, but they had to be sold in a keenly competitive market. In tobacco, on the other hand, Talbot was one of the areas of America that could undersell the world. The requirements of the plant molded the life of the people, determined the character of the immigrants and designated the labor system.

Lord Baltimore soon discovered that it was not possible to imitate the old English manorial system. He therefore issued patents to large numbers of small holders. Although there were many large plantations in the county, the majority of planters were sturdy yeomen, owning their little farms and working them. However it was almost impossible to do all the work alone. Cheap help was needed. This was met by the indentured servant class, poor laborers, generally, who were no longer content to work in England. But even the indentured servant was too expensive, his term of service too short.²⁹ Something else was needed. That something was the slave. After 1680 they were brought into the county in rather large numbers so that by 1712 there were 492 Negroes among 4,178 people, or 11% of the population. By 1790 the number of slaves had increased to 4,777 in 13,084 people, or 45% of the population. But they were owned by a comparatively few people. In 1790 there were only 135 men who owned ten or more slaves in a white population of 7,231.³⁰ Most of the freeholders still worked their own land.

This increase in slaves forced the small farmer to compete with slave labor. It meant that the large planter shipped his tobacco direct to England from his private wharf, while the small farmer sold to the local buyer. Instead of securing English goods at English prices, purchases had to be made from local merchants or the representatives of the English houses at Oxford. In most instances the local merchant, or storekeeper, might be the great planter, who frequently combined tobacco culture, stock raising and merchandising, and in a separate building on his estate kept a supply of the innumerable articles needed by the small planter who had no direct relations with England. Against such competition the one-man farm was doomed to failure. Added to this was the poverty and distress brought on by the almost constant wars between 1689-1763. Not only did the price of tobacco decline, but the shipping costs increased. With the margin of profit so reduced, it was difficult to make ends meet. Consequently many small farmers moved away. Their land then was purchased by the large landholders. A local aristocracy began to emerge in the eighteenth century. Inter-marriage among its

members became increasingly frequent, thus serving to build up the aristocracy of wealth of the Lloyds, Tilghmans, Chamberlaines, Goldsboroughs, Hollydays, Haywards, Trippes and Nicolls. As the suffrage was limited to 50 acres freehold or 40 pounds personal property, they easily controlled county affairs. Their fortunes rested on lands and slaves, while their sons were the lawyers and government officials.

Oxford Booms and Busts—As Talbot was primarily an agricultural region, the little industry carried on was of domestic origin. Spinning, weaving, tanning, and the making of shoes, farm implements and rude furniture was carried on in the home.

Ship building is probably the oldest of all Talbot's industries. Some small vessels were built in the seventeenth century. But shipbuilding made little progress until the eighteenth century, when it was discovered that the live-oak that grew in the county was especially suited to the construction of ships. The abundance of timber in Talbot and the special "know how" of the natives made St. Michaels the center of such a trade. Thus, when war broke out in 1775, this area was the locality from which many of the privateers came. Fishing undoubtedly ranked next to agriculture as the leading county occupation.³¹

Another important industry was milling. The miller was usually paid for his services by receiving a certain part of the grain he ground. Talbot early took the lead among the counties in the exportation of flour.

Talbot was well situated for commercial leadership. No better understanding of that phase of life can be obtained than through a study of Oxford, the chief port of entry and the metropolis of the Eastern Shore in Colonial days. On September 22, 1668, William Stevens had given the Lord Proprietary a gift of 30 acres of land "for the settling and building of a towne on Tread Aven Creeks in Great Choptank."³² The authorities of Maryland, too, recognized Oxford's possibilities, its deep land locked harbor and easy accessibility to bay and ocean. As early as April 20, 1669, the location was designated as a port of entry. But it was not until 1683 that the Legislature passed an act officially proclaiming this. Shortly afterwards, commissioners were appointed to purchase 100 acres of land, survey and divide it into lots of one acre each. The growth of the community was phenomenal. There was certainly ground for belief that a flourishing seaport might develop. By 1694 Oxford was one of the two ports for the entrance and clearance of vessels for the province. A collector and naval officer resided here and lots were set aside for shipyards. In 1695 an Act of Assembly changed the name to Williamstadt and provided for the purchase of 100 acres of land for common pasture. The English merchants were not long in realizing this excellent harbor would be a center of shipping. One of the first firms to establish a store at this thriving port was Foster, Cunliffe and Company. In 1738 Robert Morris, Senior, came there as the company representative. Soon eight British "factories" were established at Oxford, as well as several local firms, of which Samuel Chamberlain and Company was the most important. Tobacco was the principal article of export. Skins, wheat, pork and lumber were also exported in quantity.³³

Cunliffe's and the other firms imported Negro slaves, indentured servants and convicts. Of these three human commodities, people were opposed only to the importation of convicts. On the other hand, the importation and selling of slaves and indentured servants was big business. The profit for the captain was a rather tidy sum. Prospective buyers examined indentures or Negroes, interviewed

them if possible, and finally bargained with the agents. Sometimes an auction was held.³⁴ While waiting for tobacco or freight, it was common for the ships to sail up the Choptank or the Tred Avon to escape the boring worm so destructive to vessels in salt water. Naturally shipyards had a prominent place in the thriving port of Oxford. Among the yards that kept the vast merchant fleets at sea was Thomas Skillington's at Ship's Point. His shipwrights made repairs here and even built some small ships.

By the middle of the eighteenth century the decay of Oxford had begun. Few suspected it. But the tobacco trade had suffered greatly during the periods of war between England and France.³⁵ Over-production and soil exhaustion were other problems the tobacco producer had to meet.³⁶ Wheat and corn took the place of tobacco as the staple, while cattle and hogs were raised for export to New England and the West Indies. Horses increased so rapidly that legislation was passed to prevent stallions running at large.

These developments came too late to save the port. The rise of Baltimore City had sounded the death knell of Oxford. In 1759 the last of the Cunliffe agents, Henry Callister, left. In 1775 the last seagoing ship called there and in 1793 Banning could write: "The once well-worn streets are now grown up in grass, save a few narrow tracks made by sheep and swine; and the strands have more the appearance of an uninhabited island than where human feet had ever trod . . . Bereft of all former greatness, nothing remains to console her but the salubrious air and fine navigation which may anticipate better times."³⁷

Life In The Country—The people of Talbot were favored by geographic conditions for communication among themselves. Everywhere navigable rivers and creeks led into the interior. During the seventeenth century everyone lived within easy reach of the Choptank, the Miles, the Wye and Plaindealing. The creeks, rivers, and inlets were so numerous that every planter had navigable salt water at his door.

The first highways were naturally the Indian trails. They were usually from twelve to eighteen inches wide and were sometimes worn to a depth of a foot. They were dusty in summer and almost impassable in winter. There were no bridges. As early as 1666 the Assembly passed "an act for marking highways and making the head of rivers, creeks, branches and swamps passable for horse and foot." According to another Act of 1704, all public and main roads were to be cleared and grubbed to a width of twenty feet.³⁸ By 1760 there were a number of ferries in operation throughout the county.³⁹ Carriages were common by the last quarter of the eighteenth century, and the stage coach to New York, too, had made its appearance by then.

The round of hard work on farm and isolated life on plantation would have become monotonous indeed if house parties, marriages, funerals and court days had not afforded welcome excuses for socializing. Court day was the most popular, because it came more regularly. It was considered a time for relaxation and amusement. With each movement of the county seat, a new tavern grew up, and there were several of these in the county. Sometimes sessions of the public court were held in the tavern. Elizabeth Winkles' establishment at York served this purpose on numerous occasions.

The county taverns were social centers. They accommodated travellers, served meals to countrymen in town for the day, and, of course, provided moistening agents for throats parched by arguing in court, gossiping, or travelling along the dusty roads.

The people kept up the rough old English sports and games—fox hunting, racing, bear baiting, bull baiting, and cock fighting. The fondness for sports and outdoor life was not confined to any one class. Even the ladies joined in, as enthusiastic spectators if not as participants. Boat races and regattas were held as frequently then as now. Matched races between pedigreed horses occurred every Fall and Spring at Oxford. The purses varied, but they were high enough to insure the entrance of the best horses in the county.⁴⁰

This preoccupation with outdoor sports and social activities did not make for bookishness, and even newspapers were hard to come by. In the eighteenth century, the *Maryland Gazette* was the popular favorite; but some of the more wealthy undoubtedly obtained copies of *Boston News Letter*, *Boston Gazette*, *Philadelphia Mercury*, *New England Courier* and *New York Gazette*. Extracts from foreign journals, usually some months old, formed the substance of these papers. Knowledge of events and happenings were more apt to be gleaned from paid advertisements than from the news columns. There were no bookshops in Talbot during the entire colonial period.

In Talbot, where communities were scattered and means of communication poor, few doctors could make a living. The care of the sick was generally entrusted to the women. Epidemics took a terrible toll of life, while mosquitoes and unwholesome drinking water made malaria and dysentery universal. Children faced constant danger throughout childhood; the mortality rate was consistently high.

The attitude of the public and the courts toward crime was indicative of the value of human life in that sparsely settled community. The death penalty was seldom exacted, except in extreme cases. Aside from murderers, it was reserved for horse thieves and burglars; for the loss of a man's means of transportation or his few household possessions could be the equivalent of death itself.

Mutilation, on the other hand, was the most usual sentence. The prison, erected some time after 1679, was seldom used. Why sustain a productive but errant citizen at public expense when the court could lop off an ear and send him back to work at his farm? Coiners were whipped, pilloried and cropped for their first offense. Cursing, drunkenness and breach of the Sabbath were punished by fines. Fornication and adultery drew more severe sentences. Grain and tobacco speculators were fined and imprisoned while forgers were lashed.

These rude laws were often not enforced among the gentry and planters, although in 1748 a prominent citizen lost his ear and stood in the pillory for forgery.⁴¹ A whipping post was erected at the court house; here the thieves were punished. As time passed, however, corporal punishment was practiced less commonly, although the "lash" remained to haunt the dispossessed.

Architecture followed the prevailing types in England. The most notable examples of homes built during this period were: Troth's Fortune, 1676; Saulsbury House, 1663; Jamaica Point, circa 1775; Plaindealing, Otwell, Ratcliffe Manor, 1750; Grosse Coate, Fausley Wood Farm, Myrtle Grove, 1734; Wye House, 1640; Fairview, circa 1718; Pleasant Valley, 1770; Ashby, 1690; Crosiadore, 1659; Compton, circa 1696; and Comesbury.⁴²

The Revolution as Viewed From the Eastern Shore—By 1763 Talbot contained a self reliant people living their own life, impatient of outside control and regulation. Throughout Colonial days they were quick to assert their rights, while the English had to remind them of their duties. It was in such an atmosphere

that the Stamp Act was passed by Parliament on March 22, 1765, to become effective on November 1, 1765. Opinion against the Act crystalized in that short period. On August 18, 1765, the ship *Layton* from London anchored at Oxford. Aboard was Zachary Hood, a stamp master, and a native of the Western Shore. When a group of citizens discovered Hood, they began to hurl insults at him. Alarmed, he fled to Annapolis. Shortly after the incident, stamps intended for distribution in Talbot arrived by ship at New Castle, Delaware. Upon learning of this, Governor Sharpe requested that the stamps be retained aboard. Meanwhile the Talbot Court stated⁴³ that they could not comply with the Stamp Act provisions. Their opinion was buttressed by what transpired at a public meeting held at the Court House on November 25, 1765. Here the people, in addition to professing their allegiance to the King and their loyalty to the Constitution, declared the Stamp Act unconstitutional. An effigy of the stamp agent was burned on the lawn of the Court House. The mob then adjourned to a tavern where the royal healths were drunk.⁴⁴ The Stamp Act was repealed by Parliament in March, 1766. But the Talbot justices were not aware of that when they met that same month, and, "having . . . taken into consideration the mischievous consequences that might arise from proceeding to do business according to the dictates of the provisions of the Stamp Act," they would not hold court.⁴⁵

The agitation over the Act had scarcely subsided, when old fears were reborn in the Townshend Acts of 1767. Talbot-born John Dickinson, in a series of papers called the "Farmer's Letters," awakened the people to the situation. The Assembly met in May, 1768, and issued a petition, partially prepared by Matthew Tilghman,⁴⁶ a Talbot delegate, denouncing the measures. Eventually finding that such appeals had no effect, the colonists adopted non-importation agreements. To see to their enforcement, committees were selected in each county. So successful were they and so disastrous were the economic effects upon England that the Townshend Acts, with the exception of the tea tax, were repealed. With the cause removed, almost all of the colonial merchants, those of Baltimore included, withdrew from the agreement. Meanwhile citizens of Talbot expressed their indignation over such actions in a series of resolutions passed at a mass meeting on August 10, 1770. They insisted that the obligations of the association were binding until all taxes were abolished and the principle for which they were contending was accepted.⁴⁷ Shortly after this, a general convention was held at Annapolis to decide on a policy for the Maryland merchants. The Talbot committee denounced the Baltimore merchants' renunciation of the non-importation agreements and begged that all foreign commerce be halted until the complete repeal of the Act.⁴⁸ Despite these flare-ups, Talbot had no violent demonstration against the Acts of Parliament because there was a moderating influence in a long standing tradition of public service among the oldest and wealthiest families. Some persisted in the belief that matters could be adjusted. There were many professed Tories around Oxford, and there were even more who did not wish to commit themselves.

The next several years passed quietly enough—the lull before the storm. Public agitation was again aroused over the tea situation. The Boston Tea Party led to the passage of the Boston Port Bill and other punitive measures. These Acts in turn aroused indignation and alarm throughout Talbot. At a court house meeting deputies were elected and sent to a general convention of protest at Annapolis on June 22, 1774.⁴⁹ Matthew Tilghman was elected chairman of the convention. Five months later the convention met again. Among the recom-

mendations this time was one asking each county to raise money for arms and ammunition. Talbot was assigned, as her contribution, the sum of £400.⁵⁰

War finally came in April, 1775. Talbot was too far from the scene to take an immediate part in the struggle, but it showed active interest from the first. On July 26, 1775, the convention of Maryland met. Talbot representatives, Matthew Tilghman, Nicholas Thomas, James Chamberlaine and Edward Lloyd, answered to the roll. Committees of observation were ordered elected "to carry into execution the Association and Resolves of the Continental Congress, and Conventions of this province."⁵¹ In Talbot this committee consisted of sixteen members, with Nicholas Thomas as chairman. Of the sixteen men appointed to the council of safety, Matthew Tilghman and Edward Lloyd were from Talbot. Although Talbot furnished one company of troops, it was not originally a part of the battalion of General Smallwood, but was an independent company. James Hindman was named captain, while William Goldsborough, Archibald Anderson and Edward Hindman were selected as the other officers. By March, 1776, the company had been enrolled, drilled, equipped and was stationed at Oxford waiting orders. Apparently the movement was one to overawe the Loyalists and to enforce the orders of the governing committees. While here the Oxford patriots exacted exorbitant rates for the use of their houses as barracks.

Meanwhile, the convention ordered every able-bodied freeman to enroll in the militia. This increase in the number of men under arms necessitated a division of Maryland into military districts. Talbot became a part of a district composed of Cecil, Kent and Queen Anne's counties. By May, 1776, the Fourth and the Thirty-eighth battalions had been formed. The Fourth, commanded by Colonel Christopher Birkhead and recruited from the upper part of the county and around the Choptank River, was composed of the companies of Captains Joseph Bruff, Jacob Gibson, Nathaniel Cooper, John Dougherty, James Lloyd, Samuel Abbot, Thomas Gordon and Greenbury Goldsborough, while the Thirty-eighth battalion from Bayside commanded by Colonel James Banning was formed from the companies of Captains James Benson, Henry Banning, John Rolle, William Hambleton, William Webb Haddaway and Nicholas Martin.

The first Talbot troops ordered out were Captain James Hindman's company of County regulars. Designated to report to Washington's forces on July 13, 1776, they were held several days because of a threatened invasion of the Shore. By the last of July, however, they had joined the Maryland regulars at Philadelphia under Colonel Smallwood.⁵² Marching north, they joined the Continental Army and fought the battle of Long Island on August 22, 1776. Here the Talbot troops acquitted themselves with honor. In the battles that followed, the men from the County "made as good a stand as could be expected."⁵³ After Washington crossed the Hudson, the Talbot troops, weakened by battle casualties and sickness, accompanied the main army in its retreat across New Jersey. Provision was made for maintaining the Talbot quota by bounties for voluntary enlistment. In 1780 the Maryland line was transferred to the South. During the months that followed, Talbot troops as a part of the Maryland line saw active service at Cowpens, Guilford Court House, Hob Kirk's Hill, Fort Ninety Six, and Eutaw Springs. When preparations got under way for the Virginia campaign in 1781, large numbers of men were recruited in Maryland. Immense quantities of provisions were also furnished by each county. For her portion Talbot supplied 350 cattle. These were collected at the head of Miles River. For the transportation of troops and of stores, vessels and wagons of all kinds were impressed. On October 18, 1781, Lord Corn-

wallis capitulated and Tench Tilghman,⁵⁴ a Talbot son, was designated to carry the news to Philadelphia.

This did not mean the end of the struggle for the residents of the Eastern Shore. Talbot had always been particularly vulnerable to attack by an invading fleet. Undoubtedly Maryland and Talbot offered "unlimited possibilities for commerce . . . because of its products which are of a kind and in such abundance as to make trade profitable."⁵⁵ Throughout 1780-1781 small, armed British vessels scoured the Chesapeake, and landed marines at various points in the county to plunder plantations, fire buildings and even to hang their owners. On November 8, 1780, a party attempted to land at Benoni's Point, but there they were met by the Talbot militia, commanded by Major Jeremiah Banning, and driven off. In an effort to secure some means of defense, the Legislature ordered that designated militia be employed and that boats be equipped for defense of the bay. Before the state could formulate plans, Talbotians equipped their own ship to beat off these marauding bands. Later, vessels were outfitted by the state to intercept the invaders. Despite this the depredations continued. As late as February 19, 1783, the British were still cruising in Eastern Bay off Popular Island.

In the meantime a preliminary peace treaty had been signed on November 30, 1782. The news was not received in Talbot until March 27, 1783, when small arms firing was heard at Oxford between eight and nine p.m. On May 13 Sheriff John Needles published at the Talbot Court House the notice telling of the cessation of hostilities. However, it was not until November 19 that the county received news of the final treaty signed on September 3, 1783.⁵⁶

Democracy in America; Status Quo in Talbot—The American Revolution brought some profound changes in Talbot County. Problems connected with the administration of the war had been many. For the most part, these were carried out by the county agents. They suffered from inexperience, but they co-operated with the state authorities in recruiting, appointing officers, furnishing supplies, checking enemy trade and ship movements and maintaining public morale. On the other hand, much military business fell to private individuals. Undoubtedly many of them drove hard bargains. But the merchant, too, had to make drastic adjustments. Trade was disturbed first by the non-importation agreements, then by the war, and finally by the currency situation. Inflation was rife. There was a staggering increase in the price of goods. There was even a demand for price fixing, which smacked so much of World War II. However, Talbot was fortunate in that agriculture proceeded more normally than either commerce or manufactures. It was business as usual, with the planters raising wheat and cattle and selling it to the domestic market and the army. Plantation economy continued the pre-war tendencies, with former tobacco lands being sown in grain.

The separation from the empire necessitated the establishment of a new government. Men of Talbot took a prominent part in laying the political foundations for this new government. Locally, between 1776 and 1788, political affairs were managed almost exclusively by Matthew Tilghman and his cousin Edward Lloyd. There were exceptions, of course, when the conservative element lost control, such as in 1779 when Henry Banning, John Gibson, Richard Jones, and Christopher Birkhead were elected to the General Assembly. But in election after election in the eighteenth century the Goldsboroughs, the Lloyds, the Tilghmans, and the Chamberlains controlled the county. Even

though suffrage was rather broad, only a small number of voters exercised their franchise. Thus political dominance passed into the hands of a few families whose wealth and social prestige made them natural leaders.

When the constitution of the United States was submitted to the county for ratification, the entire question was looked upon with indifference by many of the voters. Not so the wealthy class, the large land holder, the shipper and merchant who favored its immediate adoption. Undoubtedly they were attracted by the conservative features of the constitution.⁵⁷

2. 1790-1900: TRIAL AND ERROR

The Opening Door—Entering the nineteenth century, Talbot tried hard to get away from an agricultural economy, and shivered from every depression that blasted the nation. More than once its inhabitants had to turn to its inlets for the sea food that could keep a family alive despite a shrunken pocketbook.

St. Michaels attempted to become a seaport and a shipbuilding center, as had Oxford the century before. It met Oxford's fate—boom and then bust. The War of 1812 was a repetition of the Revolution, except that this time the British got closer home. Talbot farmers left their plows to turn them back along the county's own estuaries. The war ended in another depression.

Talbotians never showed great concern with national politics. Even the violently partisan local press could get out the electorate only when a local issue was at stake. Elections were close but disinterested—the only consistent trend was a sort of plaintive conservatism.

Even the War Between the States failed to produce much excitement. Many of the slaves had already been freed, the plantation owners were no longer the ruling voice. Southern sympathizers went off and enlisted elsewhere—there was no overt violence in the county. The area came under martial law, and native sons who enlisted under the national colors soon found themselves on guard duty in their own neighborhoods—an arrangement that pleased everybody, promoted domestic tranquility, and helped business. Emancipation was accepted with some muttering, as was to be expected of a conservative public, but no one felt the necessity of donning a white sheet. The net result of the Civil War was another depression.

Tobacco farming, conducted since colonial days with scant regard for conservation, had exhausted the soil. With the rest of the nation, Talbot turned from plow to the mechanical cultivator. Wheat and corn replaced tobacco as the money crops. Late in the century the county discovered, somewhat to its own surprise, that first the canal and then the railroad had put it in touch with the urban North, and had given realization to a hope that shipbuilding, seafaring and tobacco farming had so regularly disappointed. Talbot had a steady, full-time job—feeding the millions of mouths in Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York. Improved farming methods had provided the tools with which to fulfill this purpose.

Immediately commerce and business went to work to play their important second fiddles. Flour mills became stronger. Shipways gave up schooners, turned to fishing and sailing boats. Lumbering held its own, for the immense forest tracts could still be exploited a few more years before complete devastation resulted.

Mechanization and urbanization brought into being a new ruling class, or rather a new class to share the rule with the country squires. The farmers,

their lot improved, the town merchants and the small factory owners could send their children to school, even insisted on doing so. The railroad brought in the circus to supplement the county fairs and horse races. Talbotians could run up to the city, and, more important, city vacationists could come out briefly to share their rural idyll.

For better or for worse, Talbot County was about to become a part of urban, industrialized America.

Another Commercial Bubble Bursts—In 1790 Talbot County ranked 14th in the state, with a total population of 13,084, of whom 5,853 were colored. It was one of the northern-most counties where slavery was an essential part of the economic system. Easton, the county seat, a pleasant and hospitable village, was the largest town, with some 670 souls, while St. Michaels with 277 people had supplanted Oxford as the second community in size.

Economically the Talbot business man, merchant and farmer had every reason to be hopeful in the last decade of the eighteenth century. By natural reaction a growing confidence had succeeded the distrust and stringency of the 1780s. The aristocracy felt well satisfied. Optimism was on the march; speculation was rife. In 1790 Talbot was a hustling community unmindful of the past and the old towns which had died of disappointment in the seventeenth century and lay crumbling and weed-grown in loneliness. All the world wanted wheat. Not only did Talbot furnish that product, but also her ships hauled it to Baltimore for export abroad. In order to participate in this carrying trade, new vessels had to be constructed. The vast forests of the county provided the essential timber. Efficient carpenters were available, and the many coves and inlets gave the builders inexpensive sites for shipyards. All types of vessels were built, but few exceeded 500 tons.⁵⁸ St. Michaels, founded about 1672 at the confluence of the St. Michaels River and Broad Creek, was the center of this shipbuilding industry. The town had grown up about a church originally erected on land belonging to John Hatton. Shortly the house of worship became a place of business. Here the advertisements of the ships trading in Talbot waters were posted. Here, too, the captains met the planters, factors and merchants with whom contracts were formed. Its early growth was slow. The Revolution was the signal for a tremendous advance. By 1790 St. Michaels was a thriving port. Deep water brought the largest ships to the very shore line. By 1805 the town was incorporated and the first commissioners appointed.⁵⁹

The expansion of St. Michaels was typical of the county in the decade of the 1790s. But all was not smooth. In the 1800s economic life began to falter. By 1807 commerce had received a serious check. As a result of the changed European situation, the Embargo Act was passed. Finally though, the embargo gave way to non-intercourse and prosperity quickly revived.⁶⁰

Talbot Repels an Invasion—On June 18, 1812, Congress declared war against Great Britain. Periodically the war drums had beat in Talbot. In 1794 when troops were called to put down the whiskey rebellion, companies were recruited from the county, some even marching into western Pennsylvania. Again in 1798 when war fever ran high against France, the militia was organized. Concerning the War of 1812, there were differences of opinion in Talbot. In fact, the people were almost evenly divided in their sentiments. The Federalists, representing the conservative and moneyed interests, condemned the actions of Congress, while the Democrats supported the administration. Throughout the conflict, the local election returns followed the success of arms.⁶¹

The summer of 1812 found parts of the Fourth and Twenty-sixth regiments, under the command of Perry Spencer and William Hayward, enrolled, officered, and armed. These two regiments had been formed in 1807 as an outgrowth of the *Chesapeake* and *Leopold* affair. Arms for the units were obtained from the new state armory at Easton, repository for the weapons of the entire Eastern Shore. Early in 1813, England released a naval squadron under Admiral Cockburn for attacks upon the cattle barns, chicken houses and movable property along the shores of the bay. There was much to invite the attention of the British to Talbot. The county contained the largest town on the Shore, Easton, a place of some wealth in 1813, as well as numerous shipyards upon whose ways were vessels intended for privateer service. As a rich agricultural and stock raising community, Talbot could furnish needed supplies and food-stuffs for an enemy many miles from its base.

Throughout the winter and spring of 1813 the Talbotians worried constantly over the movements of the British fleet. There was considerable apprehension, too, in view of the fact that sufficient arms were not available for all the active volunteer companies. A citizen's meeting on March 23, 1813, informed the governor of the critical condition of Talbot's defenses and asked for relief. No help came. In fact, the Secretary of War, to whom the petition was ultimately presented, advocated the withdrawal of the armory. Nevertheless, local military organization went on. Party differences were forgotten. All men of military age were enrolled and drilled regularly. Though their officers may have been ignorant of military science, no man could have been ashamed of the title of his unit. Some of these were completely activated, others were only partially organized.⁶²

In the spring of 1813 an enemy detachment seized Sharpe's Island, Tilghman and Poplar Island.⁶³ At the same time Easton became alarmed over a report, later proved false, that a fleet was approaching the town via the Tred Avon. "Beat to arms" sounded, while the Easton Light Infantry Blues and volunteers gathered to repel the attack. Breastworks opposite the Point were thrown up under the leadership of a shipyard owner, James Stoakes, doubling as a Methodist Episcopal minister. Fort Stoakes was manned by the six guns of Captain Clement Vickers' battery of the Talbot Volunteer Artillery Company. The permanent garrison consisted of a few men supplemented by the shipyard workers. Guard boats reported the position of the British when they came within Talbot waters. In Easton, T. J. Bullitt's Town Guard protected the town during the absence of the regular companies. Although the fort was never a battle ground, it stood as a reassuring bulwark to the people of Talbot.

In June, 1813, the enemy established headquarters on Kent Island, much to everyone's alarm. Shortly after, a British ship made soundings around Deep Water Point. At the same time definite information was obtained from an English deserter that in August a combined land and sea attack was to be made on St. Michaels. Guards had been posted to watch the movements of the British, and some 500 men, members of the Fourth and Twenty-sixth Maryland Militia and Twelfth Cavalry, were stationed at Parrott's Point and Dawson's Wharf. A boom was thrown across the mouth of the harbor and guns were set below the town at Broad Creek Neck. Early in the morning of August 9th, the British attacked. Despite the precautions of the citizens, about 300 red-coats outflanked the fortifications, and the defenders fled. Spiking the guns, the British returned to their barges, rowed into the river before the town and opened fire. The shot was returned by the batteries on Dawson's wharf and Mill Point.

After several hours of cannonading, in which there was little injury to either side, the British force withdrew.⁶⁴ Shortly after this engagement the county militia was released. But the danger was not over. Reports were received that the British had abandoned the upper part of the bay in order that attacks might be carried out against Talbot and the counties to the south. This was sufficient cause to recall the militia to St. Michaels. Nor did they have long to wait for the amphibious operation. On August 26, 1813, Sir Sidney Beckwith, with 1,600 men, landed at Wayde's Point about six miles below St. Michaels. So successful, however, was the show of resistance of the Talbot forces that toward evening the enemy troops returned to their fleet. On August 30th the British weighed anchor and stood down the bay thus closing the campaign of 1813.⁶⁵

Although immediate danger had passed, other visits were expected. Old military groups were still maintained, and new ones were formed. Quiet reigned until April, 1814, when a part of the British fleet moving northward caught two schooners near Sharpe's Island. Several months later some small vessels and a ferry were captured off Kent Point, and a Cambridge packet off Thomas' Point. These forays were a definite part of English policy to keep Talbot and the Eastern Shore in a state of alarm. On October 19, 1814, a British detachment entered the Choptank River for supplies. At the same time an expedition left the fleet to capture Easton. The attack was expected. Troops were assembled and Fort Stoakes was manned. Observers were stationed on points of land and again a guard boat watched enemy movements. On the night of October 19th the troops slept on their arms in readiness for the attack. Bad weather, however, had dispersed the enemy and the operation failed. By November 2nd the British withdrew from Talbot waters, but raids continued with vigor. Despite this, there were some venturesome Talbot captains ready to run the blockade and the risk of capture for the increased profits. Probably the most notable and enterprising was Captain Clement Vickers of the sloop *Messenger*.⁶⁶

Depressions, Elections and Life in Town—Early in 1815 news of the ratification of the peace negotiations arrived. It was most welcome. The close of the war brought moderate prosperity. But this prosperity was only temporary. By 1819 shipbuilding began to decline. Good timber grew scarce and more difficult to procure, while Baltimore became the center of industry. The Talbot yards therefore turned to the construction of small bay boats. Even this soon ceased, struck by the Panic of 1819 and the accompanying depression. In certain sections of the county, the decade of the 1820s was a period of privation and actual suffering. It was even advocated in 1823 that a soup house for distressed people should be established by the Charitable Society of Easton at the county seat.⁶⁷ Little building was undertaken and carpenters moved to Baltimore or other parts of the peninsula where work could be obtained. Many of the inhabitants turned to the bay for their subsistence. The abundant sea food grew tiresome, but it kept them alive. During these hard times it dawned on the people of Talbot that a strong economy must rest on closer contacts with Baltimore and the cities of the north. The county needed a near-by market, large enough to take not only her material products but also her children who could find no employment at home. In Easton, however, business seemed to move forward.⁶⁸

In politics, the individual Talbotian prized individual freedom above party loyalty, and frequently bolted his ticket. He was lukewarm about the impor-

tance of government, and wanted a minimum of it. Frequently brothers or close friends were of different political faiths. Political campaigns became contests between candidates, not parties. By 1824 the Federalists had virtually ceased to exist. John Quincy Adams seemed to conservative Talbotians the logical man to succeed Monroe, and they so voted. William H. Crawford ran second. He, more than any other candidate, represented the old plantation aristocracy. The count was 746 for Adams, 495 for Crawford. Talbot generally favored the tariff of 1824 and internal improvements at national expense. By 1828 Maryland had abolished all property qualifications for voting. The masses had the ballot, but as yet they did not intend to use it. The campaign of 1828 was a duplication of the one four years previously. Once again Maryland was divided. Talbot endorsed Adams 818 to 421.⁶⁹ Conservatives for the most part, within four years they were to resent what they called Jackson's open flouting of states' rights, his inept handling of public finance, the spoils system and excesses of democracy.

Talbot County during the Jacksonian era felt repercussions from several significant movements; local secession, the Panic of 1837 and reform in the state government. At the same time that South Carolina nullification hit the headlines, there was a movement on the part of the Shore counties to secede from Maryland and unite with Delaware.⁷⁰ Almost as spectacular as this secession movement was the Panic of 1837 and the period of depression that followed. Financial surpluses disappeared over-night, and the few years of prosperity of the early thirties were forgotten in the hard times that followed the panic. A population, declining since 1820, reached a low of 12,090 in 1840, dropping Talbot to seventeenth place within the state.

The movement for greater democratization in the state government took place between 1836-37 and in 1850-51. In both instances the legislative power of Talbot was curtailed. Prior to 1836-37, Talbot had four representatives in the Lower House. Even though the county had a much smaller white population than most of the western counties, it had equal representation. In the State Senate race, Talbot voted for one of six senators allotted the nine counties on the Eastern Shore. These were glaring inequalities in the apportionment of political power in the State, and Talbot was part and parcel of the system of favoritism toward the older and wealthier counties. Thus the Talbot planter, whose power was great in the existing arrangement of government, championed the old order, and the state Constitution which gave him this power. The constitutional amendment of 1837 changed all this. Provision for periodic reapportionment of the Legislature, with the federal population serving as the basis of apportioning seats, was made in the Lower House. Talbot was entitled to one senator and three delegates. The governor was to be chosen by a vote of the people. Further changes in the system of representation were made in 1850-51. The Constitutional Convention of that year, in reapportioning the House, allowed Talbot only two representatives. In addition, the County became a member of the fourth judicial district and the seventh judicial circuit.⁷¹

In the meantime the Whig party was formed. Almost at once, the business interests of Talbot gravitated to this party "because they felt an instinctive alliance with northern champions of economic and social stability and because it was to their advantage to retain a national bank and a protective tariff." Others disliked the Whigs because of Clay and his American system. At the same time they feared the Democrats because of the radical and reformatory zeal of their leaders. Nor did either party take a stand on slavery. Talbot was

apathetic towards politics throughout most of the 1840s and 1850s. The county awoke long enough in the Mexican War of 1846 to organize a troop of horse under Captain John Harrington and a company of infantry under Captain W. Henry Harrison.⁷²

Outside of these events, affairs went on in the same fashion. Locally Negro slaves brought \$350-\$1,020 each at public auction. Market prices for wheat in January, 1854, were quoted at \$1.60-\$1.63 per bushel for the red variety and \$1.70-\$1.75 for good prime white wheat. Corn sold at 68-69 cents and rye at 98 cents to \$1.00 per bushel. Thus man's earthly desires from birth to grave were taken care of by the local merchants.⁷³

In politics in the 1850s, the Know Nothing, or "American movement," gathered tremendous strength. Immediate aims hoped to exclude foreigners and Catholics from public office and to extend naturalization laws. This sentiment became a substitute for Whiggism. As that party disintegrated on national issues, some of the former Whigs of Talbot became Know Nothings. Many, especially in the St. Michaels area, favored these principles and so voted. The party was particularly active in 1855 and 1856. In spite of this, James Buchanan carried the county in 1856 over the Know Nothing candidate, Millard Fillmore.⁷⁴

A War Without Tears—Underlying all was the deep pessimism about slavery. For the greatest of all problems in Talbot was the Negro. The importation of blacks had begun early, and by 1712 there were 492 slaves in the county.⁷⁵ Eight decades later the number had climbed to 4,777. But by the Revolution tobacco growing and the ownership of slaves were no longer profitable. The planters wanted a way out. Circumstances were such that in 1785 members of the Society of Friends petitioned that slavery be abolished. The idea was rejected, for Talbot felt it would be unable to solve the problems of a large free black population. But the idea persisted. In 1823 some Talbot gentlemen expressed a desire to form an auxiliary to the American Colonization Society to purchase slaves and move them to Liberia. Public opinion would not support this plan either. Individually, though, throughout the years, benevolent masters continued to free their slaves.

The slave code, as applied in Talbot, could be rigorous. Negroes who wandered about the streets after curfew were customarily whipped. Owners could of course apply the lash, without legal interference, whenever they thought it necessary. The advertising columns of the newspapers abounded with the standardized woodcut of a runaway black, hurrying along with stick and bundle, looking back over his shoulder. Runaways were generally sold as soon as they were recovered.

Most masters tried to avoid selling their slaves if at all possible, but forced sales were often necessary to settle an estate. Advertisements by the slave dealers offered cash in "exchange for every description of Negroes," while at auctions good prices were paid for "likely Negro men and women."⁷⁶

As abolitionist propaganda penetrated the community, there were ever more frequent rumors of insurrection. For example, during the spring of 1855 the populace became thoroughly excited over reports that some Dorchester County slaves had planned an insurrection for Easter. Citizens met and passed a resolution providing that blacks should be confined to their quarters until the danger was past.⁷⁷ But the revolt never occurred. Several years later a St. Michaels citizen found a letter threatening another uprising. Patrols were or-

ganized immediately, and a strong guard protected Easton. Again, nothing happened.⁷⁸ The constable was always alert to disperse even the most innocent-appearing congregation of Negroes.

The free black population increased considerably over the years. This naturally affected the attitude of the people toward slavery and emancipation. Stringent legislation followed the Nat Turner insurrection in Virginia in 1831. Free Negroes who remained in Talbot were subject to fine and deportation. Any white man who harbored or employed them was also fined. There were exceptions of course. Within the county a free black could move about in the communities in which he was known. Beyond this, he might be liable to arrest, for color created the presumption that the man was a slave. With the approach of the "irresistible conflict," excitement increased and a feeling of distrust toward the black prevailed.⁷⁹

In 1860 Talbot County backed Bell, who had no political principle other than the Constitution, the Union and law enforcement. On April 12, 1861, the first shot was fired in the War Between the States and the men of Talbot were off to fight again. But here, as in so many sections of the country, sentiment was divided. A great many Talbotians were drawn to the seceded states by blood ties, and by their determination to keep the county and the South a white man's country. Union troops soon occupied Maryland and those who believed sincerely enough in states' rights and slavery joined the Southern army. Others, believing in the Union and wanting to fight for that ideal, filled Company H of the First Eastern Shore Regiment of Infantry, Maryland Volunteers, organized at Cambridge in September, 1861. Early in the war this group was assigned guard duty along the coast of the Eastern Shore to prevent blockade runners from carrying contraband to the South. In the county itself there was no warlike activity. With the invasion of Maryland in 1863, the first Eastern Shore Regiment was sent to Gettysburg, where they joined the 12th Army Corps on July 3, 1863. After a brief tour of duty on the upper Potomac, the regiment was ordered back to the Shore, where it performed guard duty until its partial consolidation with the 11th Regiment of the Infantry, Maryland Volunteers.⁸⁰

Undoubtedly a large proportion of the Talbotians were Southern sympathizers, for soon after the war began the county was placed under military law.⁸¹ In the wartime election of 1864, Talbot in a small vote backed Lincoln 2-1 against McClellan. The same year the county voted 1,020-430 against the adoption of the new constitution of the state. However, with the registration lists once again open in 1867, the Democrats elected their candidates and gained control of the State Legislature. The following year Seymour won out over Grant by almost a 4-1 majority in the county presidential election. But on the national scene Grant won easily. Two years later the "African and Caucasian came together at the polls" for the first time. According to a local reporter, "The day passed off quietly with not a quarrel nor any disturbance nor interference with the voters." Marshals and soldiers were stationed about so that "every one had free access to the polls to vote as they desired." Commenting on the election, the *Easton Journal* said that the radicals were beaten and the whites were triumphant. "All Honor to those who peacefully and quietly crushed out radicalism and negro equality in Talbot." The government apparently was not completely satisfied with the condition of the Negro, for congressional investigations were frequently carried out. Local journalists complained against these aggressions and usurpations of Congress, saying that they

should be checked "if it can be done in no other way, by the mighty voice of a popular revolution."⁸²

In 1872 the Democrats were beaten in the presidential election, when Grant won over Greeley by 142 votes.⁸³ The election was an indication of things to come. Never did the Democratic party regain its undisputed political dominance in the county. From this time until the close of the century, local as well as presidential elections followed no definite pattern, although the *Easton Gazette* vociferously complained that Arthur P. Gorman's ring was in control of elections.⁸⁴ All contests were close and exciting, with the winner separated from the loser by only a few votes. In 1888 Harrison received 2,283 votes to Cleveland's 2,121. Though turnouts were heavy at all elections, matters of purely local interest engaged the attention of the people more than great national and international issues of the nineteenth century. Protection and preservation of the oyster grounds, election of school officials and trustees, sale of liquor and the retention of pig pens in towns—all these were far more important than tariff, the money question, pressure groups and imperialism.⁸⁵

Truck Farming Achieves Respectability—At the beginning of the century Talbot fields showed the effects of poor tillage and soil exhaustion. Wheat had been a profitable staple prior to 1800. But the attacks of the Hessian fly spelled its doom until new varieties could be found. Livestock were lean and rangy. A typical farm consisted of several hundred acres only partly under cultivation. This was divided into small fields by worm fences made of split rails. Farmers followed a three-field system of maize, rye or wheat, alternated with pasture. Systematic application of manure to the soil was rare.

Talbot was fortunate in having one man who thought about such problems. In fact his *Essays and Notes on Husbandry and Rural Affairs*, published in 1799, was a most important book on general agriculture. John Beale Bordley, lawyer-author, conducted an agricultural experimental station on his 1600-acre farm on Wye Island. He condemned the three field system, experimented on an eight-field set up, agitated for the general acceptance of the iron plow, wrote concerning the improvement of the soils through the use of gypsum and marl, and advocated that cattle be imported to improve the domestic breed.⁸⁶ It was natural, too, that those interested in farming should seek out each other for discussion. A Society for the Promotion of Agriculture and Rural Economy for the Eastern Shore of Maryland was formed on September 9, 1805, in Easton, with Nicholas Hammond as president. Articles published in the *Republican Star* by "Agricola" paved the way for the formation of this society. Its meetings were held in the court house. Apparently questions of labor, prices, supply and demand were important points of discussion. This society was superseded in 1818 by the Agricultural Society of the State of Maryland. By 1823 Edward Lloyd, Nicholas Hammond, Tench Tilghman, Robert Moore and Edward Hambleton, all of Talbot, had been instrumental in organizing a branch of the society on the Eastern Shore. Though these men accomplished a great deal, their societies and writings did not reach the man in the fields. However, a novel experiment, introduced in 1822, appealed especially to the farmers. The first cattle show was held in Easton under the auspices of the society. Premiums were offered for all kinds of produce and women's work.⁸⁷ Out of this, the county fair was born, a social institution for instruction and entertainment. By 1840 horse racing had been added, and the Easton fair with but several lapses flourished down to 1915. In spite of all this, there

was actually little improvement in the status of agriculture between 1800 and 1850. But forces were at work, unnoticed by the farmer, which were to change the entire picture by 1900.

As the century advanced, agricultural discoveries improved conditions on the farm. Scientific ideas spread steadily. By 1900, manure was universally used, crop rotation was understood and practiced. Farmers not only had formed



Dover Ferry Farm, Near Cambridge, Talbot County

their Grange and agriculture society, but they were subscribing to numerous agricultural journals. Still more important was the advance toward mechanization. The value of implements and machinery increased from \$126,950 in 1860 to \$304,220 in 1900; but the power represented by these machines increased in much greater proportion, for the cost had been reduced. In 1860, Talbot ranked fifth on the Shore; four decades later the county held third position. Probably the most revolutionary invention was the reaper, which had by 1865 come into general use.⁸⁸ But contributing to the unshackling of the farmer were such mechanical innovations as the self binding harvester, the threshing steam engine, the adjustable tooth harrow, corn cultivators, shellers and planters, mowers and horse rakes.

Statistics, too, fill in the picture of the development and growth of Talbot's agriculture. The most spectacular increase in production was made in grain, for this was facilitated most of all by machinery. By 1900 there was not a single pound of tobacco produced. As late as 1860, there had been 1,100 pounds, but the staple crop of the Colonial Period had been supplanted by the production of wheat and corn. In 1900 the figures for wheat had increased almost fourfold over 1850 to 846,340 bushels, placing the county second on the Shore. With corn the growth was not as rapid. The 1900 figure placed Talbot fourth in corn grown. By 1860 the transition from a self-sufficient economy to commercial agriculture with emphasis upon diversification had come about. By 1900 the value of orchard products stood at \$34,507 and garden products

exclusive of potatoes amounted to \$110,046. This is a phenomenal growth. It indicated that Talbot had become conscious of its importance as a trucking area within easy reach of northern markets. In line with this trend, the county's importance as a dairying community was now recognized, for in 1900 the farmers sold \$86,346 in dairy products. Quantities of milk were produced, but most of it was used in the making of butter. A new crop had come upon the scene by the opening of the twentieth century. This was clover, of which Talbot produced 4,192 tons, and ranked first on the Shore. Production of wool, too, was high on the list with a production by 1900 of 73,160 pounds. By 1900, therefore, the demands of the rapidly expanding cities of the North, the construction of railroad lines, and the development of the refrigerator car were beginning to change the entire picture of agriculture.⁸⁹

Industry and Business Arrive to Stay—Talbot too felt to some degree those twin developments of the nineteenth century—industrialization and urbanization. In 1800 Talbot industry, what little that existed, was still in the domestic stage. Every man was master of his own time. Shipbuilding was the most important industry. Then came the War of 1812 and the aftermath. There began a rush of emigrants to the West and the population declined. Debt, deflation and hard times hit the county in 1820. Conditions became so bad that many of the St. Michaels shipyards closed. Those still in business continued with a greatly reduced force. By the thirties Talbot had recovered to a great degree. By 1860 Talbot's industrial output had advanced considerably, but her relative position among the counties of the Shore declined from second to third. In value, the businesses closely allied to agriculture, such as milling, lumbering and the manufacture of wagons and shoes, supplanted a shipbuilding tradition carried on since 1675. The milling establishments were, of course, the greatest producers of wealth. Milling was one of the county's oldest business enterprises. In 1860, the fourteen Talbot mills were worth \$58,950, which was about 65% of the industrial wealth of the county. Sales of flour for the year amounted to \$125,035, or 65% of Talbot's industrial gross. Flour mills employed 21% of the county's labor force, paid them an average of \$185 per man per year (some \$22 less than the average laborer), which amounted to a fifth of the county's total payroll.

Lumbering was the next industry in importance. The six sawmills were worth \$8,700, employed twelve men at a total cost of \$2,544, and sold \$21,900 worth of finished lumber. The best paid workers were in the six plants which manufactured carts and wagons. There were twelve of them and their yearly income averaged \$311 each. Five boot manufacturers, with an average capital of less than \$1,000 each, employed 24 cobblers for \$5,076 and made footwear worth \$17,200.

Of the shipyards, which early in the century had been virtually the only important industry, only one was left in 1860. It worked four men for \$900 and built \$3,500 worth of boats. This was ebb tide for the shipwrights. During the next ten years boat building returned to Talbot to stay. By 1870 three yards were employing 26 men and producing small boats worth \$19,450.

The trend toward industrialization continued to the end of the century. Between 1860 and 1900 the number of plants of various sorts increased from 41 to 114; their capitalization from \$90,650 to \$604,621; wage earners from 102 to 611; the annual county payroll from \$21,108 to \$158,612; raw material costs from \$129,662 to \$500,333; and the value of products from \$192,855 to \$910,204.⁹⁰

These figures are interesting for more than their implication of what a dollar would buy in those golden days of American enterprise. They tell the story of the one-third of one percent of the population who had the capital to set up in business. In 1860 the average rate of profit on Talbot industry was 45%; in 1900 it was still 42%.

Withal, Talbot was not an industrial county. Among the counties on the Eastern Shore, it was in the third place industrially in 1860, but had dropped to fifth place by 1900. The only urban community was Easton.⁹¹ St. Michaels, Trappe, Oxford, Cordova and Claiborne were mere villages.

Probably the busiest and most elaborate of all occasions in the entire century was the week-long centennial celebration in 1888 of the incorporation of Easton. From 5,000 to 10,000 visitors swarmed upon the County seat by boat and train to view the grand mile-long street pageant. Floats were sponsored by the merchants; the Easton band played and the fire department paraded its water slingers, hose men and hook-and-ladder.⁹²

Canal and Railroad Bring the World to Talbot—During the early days of the nineteenth century there was little land communication with the other counties of the Shore. But bad roads were a penalty that Talbot residents paid for their rural atmosphere and aversion to taxation. There was a main post road from Easton to Centreville, over which mail and passengers were transported by light open stage wagons.⁹³ By 1869 conditions were much improved. Several stage lines operated out of Easton. The old post road to Centreville had been extended to tap St. Michaels, while the Bridgeville Line connected the County seat to the Delaware roads via Federalsburg and Bridgeville. Locally the County was served by stages of Smith and Ford and the Trappe Line. Conveyances of the former concern left Easton each morning at eleven for St. Michaels, while those of the latter departed every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday for Trappe, Hole in the Wall, and Oxford.⁹⁴ With the advent of the railroad, transportation became faster and faster.

Early enthusiasm for the stage coach was tempered through experience with the inadequacy of such service. This era consequently merged into the age of the steamboat. In fact, during most of the nineteenth century, river transportation was the chief means of communication. Sailing packets had by 1800 begun to ply between Baltimore and the Talbot towns. Fine sloops with commodious accommodations kept schedules that were at the mercy of the elements, while shallops, barges and canoes carried the freight and products of the County. These privately owned vessels did a flourishing business. In an effort to tap the rich profits of this trade, steamboat connections were established in 1817 between Easton and Baltimore by way of St. Michaels and the Miles River bridge. Here one transferred to wagon or carriage for the four-mile trip to Easton. According to one of the earliest published schedules, the steamer *Surprise*, Captain J. Spencer, master, left Miles River landing on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings for the Western Shore. On June 11, 1819, the steamer *Maryland* entered the competition. Leaving the Miles River every Monday and Thursday at 8 a.m., this converted schooner returned on Wednesday and Saturday at 8 p.m. Baggage could be "sent at the risk of the owners." Passenger accommodations were below deck along with the boilers, fuel (wood), freight and cattle. The *Maryland* carried a mast and sails which could be set with a fair wind. Under such conditions, five miles per hour was average speed. The *Paul Jones*, *Osiris* and *Cambridge* soon joined the *Maryland* in Talbot waters, and the *Hugh Jenkins* and *Champion* were added

later. The life of these first "boats" was short. Profits had to be quick or failure was inevitable. In spite of the fabulous success of some of these early steamboats, theirs was a precarious existence. Sloops and sailing packets therefore continued for some decades to transport agricultural and industrial products of Talbot. These were swift, beautifully modelled "ships" of about one hundred tons, elaborately fitted with interior mahogany furnishings. The *Trial* of the Easton Packet line followed a regular weekly schedule between Easton Point, the newly created port of the County seat, and the Baltimore tobacco warehouse. All orders were "promptly attended to when accompanied by cash."⁹⁵

Throughout the twenties the idea of supplementing the natural waterways of the Bay by investing in the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal appealed to the Talbotians. With the opening of the canal in 1829 the one market previously available had increased to three, for now New York and Philadelphia could be tapped. Easton became a thriving commercial town. St. Michaels climbed out of the depression by turning to the oyster trade, while Oxford seemed to shake herself from a long slumber. Fleets of pungies supplanted the casual sloops which formerly hauled the crabs and oysters to the markets, while packing companies prepared the catch for shipment to distant points. The weekly packets were replaced by regular steamers, financed by companies rather than individuals. In 1867 the Enterprise Steamship Company, formed during the war for trade on the Miles, Choptank and Tred Avon rivers, was reorganized as the Maryland Steamboat Company, with the steamers *Massachusetts* and *Highland Light* plying among the river landings. Other companies quickly saw the advantages of the field and hastened to compete for the lucrative peach, grain, watermelon and tomato trade. Beginning with three schooners in 1870, Captain C. C. Wheeler added in rapid succession the *Minnie Wheeler*, the *Chesapeake* and the *Easton*. By 1896 he had expanded his line to include stops at Easton, Oxford and Trappe landings. The Choptank Steamboat Company, organized by some Dorchester County citizens in 1883, began operation with a night boat to Easton, Oxford, Cambridge and the Choptank landings. The fleet was soon augmented by the addition of the *Tred Avon* in 1884 and the *Cambridge* six years later. All the boats on this run were neat and resplendent with Brussels carpet, easy chairs, good beds and excellent fifty cent meals. In fact, one of the thrills of the trip on the overnight boat from Easton to Baltimore was eating in the dining room. It was aft on the main deck. The table covers were "reddish plaid with fringed napkins to match," the china was embellished with the crest of the line, while the meals were magnificent.⁹⁶

To have provided steamboat and road connections with Philadelphia, New York and Baltimore within such a short period was an achievement. But this slow transportation did not "appeal to the men of the period." Even though the steamboat-stage "system was far from complete, the generation was expending more thought and capital upon the development of a system quite different, that of the railroad."⁹⁷ Preliminary work on the mechanical, technical and financial aspects was completed by 1850. As the mania for railroads spread, Talbotians recognized the fact that rail communication meant prosperity. Investors were ready, funds were secured and the dream became a reality. In 1855 commissioners were appointed and \$25 shares were sold on a project to be known as the Maryland and Delaware Railroad. Actual construction on the road, which was to run through Talbot, began on December 27, 1855.⁹⁸ Not only was building slow, but the undertaking was further delayed by the war. A vision of fortunes, however,

haunted these pioneers. Work was pressed forward. By 1869 the railroad between Easton and Clayton had been completed and the fast express locomotive *Talbot*, under the hand of engineer McKee, was making the run in one hour and two minutes.⁹⁹ Speed was one thing, comfort, however, was another matter. The *Talbot* traveller rode with more safety as the Westinghouse air brake, the car platform, steel capped rails and the automatic railroad signal became standard equipment. In 1887 the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad, formerly the Maryland and Delaware Railroad, operated two round trips each day. Stops were made at Oxford, Trappe Station, Easton, Chapel, and Cordova.¹⁰⁰ But this was not enough. The railroad mania had struck and new projects were brewing. In 1887 it was proposed to link Baltimore with the Coast. A ferry service was to run from Bay Ridge to Claiborne, and a rail line through Talbot County to the eastern terminus at Ocean City. Bonds were issued and construction began. Within three years the railroad was operating regular scheduled trains and boats. In 1894 all competing ship and rail lines operating to Talbot from Baltimore were consolidated under the Baltimore, Chesapeake and Atlantic Railroad Company.¹⁰¹ Big business had made itself felt.

Education, Books, Religion, Circuses, Croquet, and other Trivia—Until the last quarter of the nineteenth century education beyond the elementary subjects depended chiefly upon tutors, preparatory schools and tuition academies. It had been said much earlier that instruction of children was a public responsibility, but few Talbot taxpayers were willing to underwrite a system of schools. Between 1790-1865 a number of private schools and academies were founded to provide an education for those who could afford it. In 1791 the Friends established a tuition school in Easton. By 1803 the Easton Academy, Mr. Barclay, principal, was administering to the youth of the County. The Female Academy of Easton in 1822 assured parents "that every exertion will be made to facilitate the moral and literary progress of those entrusted to Miss Susan Quinn. . . ."¹⁰² In addition there were other academies: Thomas Cross' school of Easton, R. Hubbard, master; the Young Ladies Academy of Easton under the direction and instruction of Miss Harriss; W. Sherer's Boarding School for Young Ladies; Matthew Spencer's English and Classical School in St. Michaels; the Maryland Academy in Oxford; Mrs. M. A. Pattison's School for Young Ladies; the St. Michaels Female Academy and the St. Michaels Male Academy, directed by Frank Page, Esq. Although the life of these schools was short, all managed to survive for a while and to exert a profound influence upon the youth of the period. In 1834 Spencer's School Law, providing that primary schools be supported by public funds, passed the Maryland Legislature. Shortly after this, the first elementary school was established in Easton. Advertisements asked for teachers at \$300 per year.¹⁰³ But there was no freedom. For the curriculum stressed religious and moral precepts; and the church, on occasions, maintained supervisory power over the system. By 1850 public education had supplanted the academy. Statistics of that year show 78 students registered in private schools and 985 in public schools.¹⁰⁴ In spite of this advance, public education for all still ended on the elementary level. Twenty years later, however, in 1870, both Easton and St. Michaels had high schools. But like the academies, these high schools were looked upon as college prep schools. In 1870 there were 1,874 pupils in the public schools, but 30% of the people could neither read nor write. The Education Law of 1872 planned a rather ideal program of study. It prescribed that there "shall be taught in every district school orthography, reading, writing, English grammar, geography,

arithmetic, history of the United States, good behavior, algebra, bookkeeping, natural philosophy, the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Maryland, the history of Maryland, vocal music, drawing, physiology, the laws of health and domestic economy." Teachers were to be selected on the basis of fitness to carry out this ambitious scheme. Regardless of this vision, one room schools remained the rule throughout the remainder of the century. Sons of the aristocracy attended Washington College in Chestertown. For all the trades, for agriculture and even for law, apprenticeship was the solution.

While formal secondary education for the masses was being developed, there were other forces that kept them alert after they scraped an acquaintance with the three R's. The *Easton Star*, a weekly, established by Thomas Perrin Smith in December, 1800, usually provided the local citizens with the news, such as it was. This paper preached the principles of Thomas Jefferson, while the *Gazette*, its first competitor, advanced the Hamiltonian creed. The *St. Michaels Comet*, published in 1866 by H. C. Dodson and J. T. Ford, became the *Comet and Advertiser* under N. C. Killan, while the *Easton Journal* and the *Easton Democrat* were influential at one time or another during the century.¹⁰⁵ Each paper faithfully reflected its party's thoughts in economics and politics. Occasionally they were subsidized by political leaders. But as the time passed, advertising paid the bills. Facts were generally presented with a great amount of optimism. Editorials were bitter and exaggerated. With all of this, the Talbotian read the paper of his political party and followed its advice.

Rivaling the newspapers in importance were the almanac and the Bible. Every home had one of each. Periodical literature too held considerable attraction. The youth, however, as well as some of the oldsters, turned to the "Dime Novel" and such blood curdling titles as *Deadly Eye*, *Idaho Tom*, *The Young Outlaw of Silvertown* and *Spitfire Saul, the King of the Rustlers*. The books were sound, imparting lessons of manliness and courage to those who read them. Following the Civil War the reading public looked to the works of Dickens, Scott and Thackeray. As most of the popular reading was done by the women, the romantic novel soon outstripped everything in the field. Ideas and doctrines already familiar abroad were introduced via Spencer's "First Principles," Mill's "Essay" and Darwin's "Origins." Thinking indeed passed from the theological stage to the scientific.

The Talbotian found much of his recreation in connection with his work. "Bees" were organized on the slightest provocation. Men's bees were enlivened by whiskey, the women's by gossip. One of the most popular of all the festivities came at corn husking. After work there was always time for foot races, leaping contests, shooting at the mark and wrestling. Spectator sports, with the exception of horse racing, had little importance. Individuals enjoyed the activities in which they could participate. Hunting, fishing, swimming, sailing, skating, pitching horseshoes and reading filled the leisure hours. During the snows sleighing parties were organized. But more time was found for the swapping of yarns than sport. In the County, in inns and stores, on stages and boats, there was developing a folk lore of humor. Practical joking extended to enormous proportions. By the mid-century the polka had begun to replace the dignity of the square dance. Cards were common enough to call for arbitration in the form of Hoyle's rules.

Of course the fair was the important event of the year. The Talbot County Cattle Show and Fair, inaugurated in the 1820s and held throughout most of the nineteenth century in Easton, was always well attended. In its early days exhibitions of animals and household manufactures were featured, while for special en-

tertainment there were ploughing matches for speed. By the 1880s the fair had become a grand exhibition of horses, cattle, sheep, swine, products of the farm and displays of machinery. Trotting, running, pacing, and tricycle races, amusements and music provided the entertainment.¹⁰⁶ The circus brought gaiety and amusement to a public eager to be hoaxed. In the fifties "Rivers and Derious Gracious Arena Circus," with superbly equipped equestrian artists, "the most novel, elegant, refined and original entertainment ever given in the circle" stopped for an afternoon and evening performance in Easton.¹⁰⁷ In the eighties "Wallace and Company's Great World's Menagerie and International Three Ring Circus," featuring gymnastics and trapeze performers delighted those who attended. A new feature in tent entertainment was introduced with the Wild West show. Talbot's initiation to this adjunct of the circus was the appearance of Pawnee Bill's Indians in 1888. While camping in the woods near Cordova, they obtained some whiskey, and staged a battle that had not been billed in the advance notices. The sheriff finally appeared, captured Pawnee Bill's warriors, and locked them in jail.¹⁰⁸

Following the Civil War, outdoor sports came into prominence. Baseball established itself as the leading game. Both St. Michaels and Easton had nines. The Easton Independents, the Idlewood Baseball Club and the St. Michaels Osceolas represented the County over a period of years in regular scheduled games with Cambridge, Federalsburg and teams of picked players. Contests in Easton were played at the Idlewood fair grounds, where a ten cent admission fee was charged.¹⁰⁹ Tennis clubs were organized in Trappe and Easton. Croquet was popular with both sexes. By 1870 the bicycle had become an equally universal passion. Excursions to Ocean City were regular features of the railroads,¹¹⁰ while increasing crowds from the cities were coming to Talbot for vacations at Oxford's Hotel Riverview and the Easton Hotel. The summer vacation that had been a privilege of the well-to-do was now rapidly becoming available to the middle classes.

At the center of Talbot life was the church. Indeed some form of church activity went on all day Sunday and spilled over into week-day prayer meetings. The County's religious groups had faced a number of readjustments since the American Revolution. The Anglicans had suffered most in material resources, popularity and morale, while the Quakers had lost ground because of their pacifism. At the same time the Methodists and Catholics went through several changes. The former, at a conference in Baltimore in 1784, became the Methodist Episcopal church. The latter recognized the American Catholic Church and Father John Carroll as the Bishop of Baltimore.¹¹¹ Probably the most important development in the first half of the century was the growth of the Sunday school, originally begun as an educational philanthropy for poor children. Sometime after 1815 the Sunday school became an integral part of the Protestant religions in Talbot. By the 1830s the union between religion and morality was so strong that they became indistinguishable. Until the last quarter of the century Sundays were observed rather quietly. There was definite evidence of this in the railroad and boat schedules. Church attendance was rather general, respectable, and fashionable. Following the Civil War, camp meetings and revivals drew great crowds who gathered to sing and pray. The Methodists, with their intense emotionalism and their democratic doctrine that salvation was equally open to all, set the pace, with the Baptists not far behind. Methodism had become so powerful that by 1870 there were 35 churches of that faith throughout the County. The Catholics had remained static, while the Episcopalians¹¹² barely held their own. Essentially, however, religion by 1900 was absorbed with local problems,¹¹³ building programs, money raising efforts and various social welfare projects.

3. TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND, U.S.A.

A Pattern Established—Talbot spent the first half of the twentieth century consolidating the gains it made in the last half of the nineteenth. It survived two wars and several more depressions without cataclysmic disturbances. It completed the change from an almost primitive agrarianism to a diversified, self-contained agricultural and fishing economy, with just enough small industry to process its own raw materials and cushion its business from the fluctuations of prices and crop failures.

Panicky in '07, patriotic in '18, complacent in '24, frightened in '32, grimly determined in '44, the County after World War II reverted to its inherent conservatism.

Movies, baseball, dime stores and Sunday motorists penetrated its isolation, but fortunately, in 1949, no one could quite say: "Here is a typical American community."

Wars, Panics and Politics—As the election campaign of 1896 drew to a close the excitement became intense.¹¹⁴ In Talbot County the Republicans were flush, while the Democrats were financially embarrassed. Not only this fact, but the decisions on national issues had led to a disruption of party loyalties comparable only to the election of 1860. Fortunately for the Republicans, too, crop failures abroad lifted the price of wheat just before the election. This greatly eased the farmers' distress. In a clear cut election McKinley received 2,542 votes to Bryan's 2,189. Some Democrats had bolted the party, initiating a movement that was to occur again in 1940-1944-1948.¹¹⁵

Before the Democrats could reorganize their forces in Talbot, the battleship *Maine* had been sunk and another war had begun. With their usual enthusiasm and patriotism, the populace answered the call to arms. Lashed by a sensational press, public gatherings echoed the slogan: "Remember the Maine." A company of infantry under Captain C. W. Adams, First Lieutenant Owen Norris and Second Lieutenant C. S. Carrington was formed. Talbot was also designated a training area for homing pigeons, where the birds were trained and exercised for communication duty between the fleet and shore. Feeling ran high against Spain, especially among those living near the water, who feared enemy naval attacks.¹¹⁶ Actual hostilities proved swift and decisive. By August 12, 1898, an armistice had been signed and the war was over. It was a tremendously popular war, perhaps because it brought a temporary relief from the growing pains of the nineteenth century.

The 1900 elections gave the people an opportunity to judge the merits of the McKinley program. Though more ballots were cast than in the preceding election, McKinley received a smaller proportion of them: 2,572 to 2,233.¹¹⁷

On September 14, 1901, Talbot was saddened by the death of McKinley. His Vice President, Theodore Roosevelt, succeeded him. The spirit of discontent and protest against the power of the corporations was abroad, but the people were fatalistic about rectifying the situation. Help was needed. It came via the "Muck-rakers" and their countless exposures. The first battle for reform in the county was waged in Easton. Having outgrown the town commission form of government, the county seat needed reorganizing. A committee was appointed to formulate a charter, and on February 19, 1906, the report was made and adopted. Despite some opposition in the Legislature, it was finally passed. The charter vested the mayor and council with the powers formerly held by the commissioners, while

the taxable limits and boundaries were fixed. Martin M. Higgins was named the first mayor. By thus framing its own charter, Easton was freed from legislative meddling. In addition, the town was able to deal more adequately with its own problems.¹¹⁸ Meanwhile, Roosevelt had become the idol of the Republicans. Even so, in Talbot the 1904 Presidential election proved to be close, with Roosevelt defeating Judge A. B. Parker, 1,995 to 1,861. Rooseveltism, so reminiscent of 1940, rather than any specific public question, proved the decisive factor. The local dopesters held that the Republicans won because the Maryland Democratic Legislature passed the Jim Crow Law in the 1904 session. It was admitted, too, that the vast, Republican-made, imperialistic domain had something to do with it.¹¹⁹ Strikingly enough, at the same time the Republicans were carrying Talbot in the presidential and congressional elections, the Democrats were victorious in the gubernatorial campaigns.

By November, 1907, a brief but sharp financial panic had hit the county. Talbot's position was sound, but confidence became impaired. In 1908 the Talbot Democrats backed Bryan against Taft 2,025 to 1,908. The following two years were disastrous ones for the Republicans and the Democrats won another victory in Talbot in the House elections of 1910.¹²⁰

In 1912 the Republican schism, apparent on the national scene, was reflected in the county. Wilson and the New Freedom won by only 53 votes from the conservative Taft. Roosevelt ran third. The people of Talbot felt the effects of the New Freedom. A social consciousness had developed. This in turn demanded a better community in which to live. The energies of government were turned to new purposes. In fact, the difficulty of safeguarding the public converted many to the belief that municipal ownership was the only solution. In 1911-12 sewers were approved and built in Easton. In 1914 the water plant was purchased and the next year the town built its own electric plant. The trend toward public ownership of the gas system was less rapid: the works were not acquired until 1923. To operate, manage and maintain the revenue producing utilities, the Easton Utilities Commission was created in 1914. In addition to these gains county interest was extended to the hospital, to the development of a community park and to the development of more efficient fire departments in Cordova, Easton, Oxford, St. Michaels, Tilghman and Trappe.¹²¹

Dissatisfaction with Wilson and the Democrats was plainly evident in 1914, when the county voted for a Republican senator and congressman. But in 1916 the people voted for the candidate who had "kept us out of war." The Democrats rode his coattails into the Senate, the House and Annapolis. Shortly after the election, public opinion crystalized into war sentiment. And on April 6, 1917, the United States entered the European struggle. Talbot sons were drafted by local boards as the call to arms sounded. But this was different from the other wars. For the first time Talbotians had to modify their habits of purchase and consumption and actually become combatants. Food control, fuel control, regulation of business and compulsory military service affected every section of the county. Each time a loan was floated, Talbot responded overwhelmingly. Volunteers supplemented the work of the government in almost everything. In fact, nearly everyone wore some sort of button or badge, while service flags flew from the windows of most stores and homes. It was democracy in action.

The dominant trends in the political life of the twenties was conservatism and indifference. In the presidential contests of 1920 and 1924, Talbot continued to back the Democratic candidates, Cox and Davis. Only a little over 1,000 women

had exercised their prerogative. The turn-out in 1924 was even less. In a colorless election, Davis, the rather conservative Democrat, defeated Calvin Coolidge, by a vote of 2,859 to 2,451. Some, despairing of both candidates, voted for "Fighting Bob" LaFollette. And then in 1928, for the first time since 1904, the Talbot Republicans carried the presidential race. Hoover, in an exciting campaign, defeated Smith, 3,990 to 2,432. For the first time the major political speeches had come to Talbot by radio. A full dinner pail and two cars in every garage sounded good to the Talbotians, as they voted for a Republican Senatorial candidate, Phillips Lee Goldsborough, for the first time since 1914 and the last until 1946.

And then in 1929 the depression hit. Talbot, however, did not feel the full effects of the crash until later. Economic conditions, however, slowly deteriorated.

Between 1931-1933 those who were fortunate enough to have jobs received substantial wage cuts. People throughout the county found themselves either without income at all or with sharply reduced budgets. Savings were soon exhausted. Many farmers and home owners lost their property. With this as a background, the county voters faced the election of 1932. Millard Tydings won the senatorial contest, while Goldsborough carried Talbot for the sixth time by a majority of 1,109 votes. For President, the voters selected Franklin D. Roosevelt by 1,661 votes over the rugged individualist, Hoover. It was a "New Deal" for the forgotten man.

There followed with breath-taking rapidity a series of measures that affected Talbot profoundly: the National Bank Holiday; the AAA, under which a farmer in return for government subsidy reduced production of wheat, corn, hogs and milk; the NRA, and its accompanying sign of the blue eagle; the PWA and the WPA with their variety of projects; and the Social Security Act, under which 250 persons in 1948 were receiving \$4,500 monthly in payments.¹²² The elections in 1934 revealed the popularity of the New Deal.¹²³ By 1936 however the scene had changed. On election day Roosevelt carried the county by the narrow margin of 206 votes. He ran far behind Goldsborough, who defeated O. L. Lloyd 4,195 to 2,934. It was an indication of coming events.

On Labor Day, 1938, Roosevelt spoke in Denton in a futile attempt to purge Millard Tydings from the Senate.¹²⁴ By 1940 the county was conservative. The elections bore this out,¹²⁵ as Willkie defeated Roosevelt in Talbot by a vote of 4,368 to 3,689.

Then came Pearl Harbor. No bands played, and there was little emotionalism. There was a war to be won. But in the first awful months, when defeats came thick and fast, when headlines were gloomy, the people of Talbot scarcely grasped the meaning of it all. The returning service man saw the county going about its accustomed ways, the gay dinner parties, the club dances, the boat races, cocktail parties, little talk about a war, and he wondered. Changes had begun though. Tire and gas regulations introduced many to ration cards; airplane spotters sat in designated places and listened for an enemy that fortunately never came; air raid wardens rehearsed for the fateful moment; first-aiders learned about pressure points; blood donors bragged of their exploits; and women wondered about the shortages of rubber and nylon. Radios were turned to the latest war bulletins, while patriotic programs multiplied. Sugar was rationed, then coffee, while rubber and metal goods became scarce in the county stores. Many businesses were hard hit—employees called by the draft, goods and materials unobtainable, delivery service curtailed. Everyone was filling out mountains of forms and questionnaires, and griping about them. Each patriot was for the war, but the

particular measure that hit him was something special. With 1943 came a turn in the tide of battle. There were changes too at home. Shortages of fuel created some suffering, while food rationing caused the hoarders to swing into action. Nor was it limited to any one item. With every rumor of the extension of rationing the commodity mentioned was exhausted immediately.

In the midst of the war effort came the elections of 1944. Both the gubernatorial and congressional elections of 1942 had gone Democratic. Two years later the picture changed. It was a conservative year with Republican triumphs. Dewey carried Talbot by 3,712 to 2,768, and in the House Wilmer Fell Davis, Republican, defeated Dudley G. Roe, 3,190 to 2,982. The conservative Democrat Tydings defeated B. Randall, 3,871 to 2,468. By the late summer of 1945 the war was over. In the restlessness, uncertainty and confusion that followed there was the desire to shake off controls, to return to normalcy. In turn the additional buying power brought inflation. The cost of living spiral seemed inevitable, as did the tremendous boom in real estate. The people became restless, dissatisfied, confused. Following the trend begun in 1940 the county voted overwhelmingly Republican in the 1946 elections for a governor, senator and congressman.¹²⁶ Nor were the elections of 1948 much different. Dewey defeated Truman decisively, 3,585 to 2,345, while Edward T. Miller beat Scott Beck, Jr., 3,966 to 2,148. Thus Talbot concluded the half century where it began—with Republican victories in the House of Representatives and for the Presidency.

From 1896 to 1948 national politics followed no definite pattern. In the 14 presidential elections held, both major parties won seven times. The Republicans were victorious in 1896, 1900, 1904, 1928, 1940, 1944 and 1948. Except for the election of Hoover in 1928, the Democrats carried Talbot from 1908 through 1936. In 13 senatorial elections the Republicans have won but three times. The major plums thus went to the Democrats, who, sparked by E. M. Tydings, carried Talbot four times. In the 27 congressional elections, Talbot voted Democratic 15 times. With the exception of the election of 1922, T. A. Goldsborough received the voters' support from 1920 through 1938, when he was appointed to the bench by F. D. Roosevelt. In the gubernatorial race in 13 contests since 1899 the Democrats have been victorious eight times, the Republicans only five. In the local elections the Democrats have secured the lion's share of the spoils. In fact locally the Republican cause seems hopeless.

Talbot Economy Today—Talbotians have worried constantly over the failure of their crops, the price of grain and their economic ills. They had been enmeshed, too, in the economic revolution and its materialistic consequences. Even though the average Talbotian could not understand the conflicting ramifications of this revolution, the county met it with a completely changed way of life. Within forty years Talbot shifted from an economy relying largely on wheat and corn, employing primitive methods of production and distribution, into a highly diversified and self-contained agricultural and salt water economy. The plea of the *Gazette* had come true for the people had realized the importance of changing their mode of farming.¹²⁷ Unlike the United States as a whole, Talbot did not have the clash of the rural and urban cultures. In 1900 only 14% of the population was urban. But there was some 27% of the population residing in incorporated towns. Between 1900 and 1940 the overall population decreased from 20,342 to 18,784, a figure that placed Talbot squarely in sixth position among the counties of the Shore. The decline was primarily due to the lure of the

cities, where additional economic advancement could be attained, and where the restless and ambitious could be satisfied.

From 1900 to 1945 the number of farms decreased from 1,199 to 976 with 12,933 fewer acres of cultivated land. As the number of farms decreased the average holding increased in size from 137.4 acres in 1900 to 147 in 1945. At the beginning of the period there were 45.5% tenant farmers. By 1945, only 35.7% of the farms were operated by tenant farmers. Despite the fewer acres and the declining farm population, agricultural production actually increased. In 1900 Talbot ranked eighth among the counties of the Shore in the value of products, with \$1,361,877 in sales. Forty-five years later the county was seventh, with \$2,064,300 worth of products.¹²⁸

Despite the traditionally agricultural nature of the section, Talbot, in the latter part of the nineteenth century turned gradually toward industrialization. But it was an industrialization that was closely allied with agriculture and the fisheries. During the period 1900-1940 that trend has continued. In a comparison of the statistics of 1900 and 1940, certain additional features become noticeable. By 1940 there were 37 industrial establishments, a loss of four over the earlier period. Then plants employed 622 wage earners, a gain of only 11 people in forty years. Technocracy had done its work. In wages paid, the workers received \$242,011 or \$390 annually, a considerable gain over the \$260 figure for 1900. Naturally a considerable portion of this is seasonal, hence its rather low figure. These industries produced articles valued at \$1,726,624, almost double the value of the 1900 figures. From such statistics the only apparent growth in the industrial life of Talbot is evident in wages paid to laborers and in the value of products. The advance in both figures, of course, is partially due to inflation. In addition, Talbot's relative position among the counties on the Shore declined from fifth place in 1900 to seventh in 1940.¹²⁹ The philosophy of the far-seeing Talbotians of the last quarter of the nineteenth century has been displaced by a group who have opposed the coming of industries and factories. They feel the entire character of the community would be changed by such industrialization.

In spite of this hostility, there has been considerable discussion in the clubs and among the business men about the ways and means of enticing small businesses and industries to Talbot. Their aim, of course, is to make Easton the shopping center of the Shore. In commenting on this program, the *Star Democrat* summed up the situation by saying that "Before this can be accomplished the people of the community must be united on the plan. But if we maintain the attitude so prominent in the past that such industries are undesirable then we can expect to remain as we are."¹³⁰ It was the voice of a new generation crying out against the traditions of the past. However, the conservatives complained bitterly as late as 1947 against the building of a structure in Easton to house the Waverly Press, publishers of medical and scientific books. In spite of such agitation, Talbot is the home of many thriving establishments, including food processing plants, hosiery and wood-work factories, hatcheries, fertilizing plants, boat yards and several other industries.

Of great importance economically is the fishing industry. Oysters, crabs and fish form the basis of this lucrative business. But the exploitation of these resources had proceeded recklessly and ruthlessly over the years. It was not until the end of the nineteenth century that any effort was made to conserve and maintain the wealth of Talbot waters.¹³¹ But even then, the attempts at conservation were feeble and halting ones. Oysters, for example, gathered by the Indians in large numbers, had become such a favorite in the county by 1790 that inns and taverns

specialized in serving them. By the 1830s oyster consumption had increased to the point where the Talbot shippers carried their catch to the city market. Demand for this sea food continued to grow and with a diminution of supply, a search for new beds began. During the Civil War the industry practically disappeared. This was fortunate, for the oysters had an opportunity to multiply. But modern times brought changes. Legal permission to use the dredge was given in 1874.¹³² In 1897 S. Taylor and J. Camper Harrison, two hard working water-men, decided that the millions of oysters obtained from the Talbot waters could be packed in Tilghman just as well as Baltimore. Meanwhile, the gasoline engine displaced the bug-eye. By 1949 most of the water traffic was mechanized and noisy.

Business too had changed in the period 1900-1949. There was a great increase of instalment buying. "Charge it" was the standard phrase of almost every Talbot Countian. "Enjoy while you pay" said the advertisers, and the Maryland Credit Finance Company, organized in 1920, assisted in this. Next to instalment buying, the most noteworthy tendency in Talbot retail trade was the development of the chain store. Its first triumph was in the grocery field, with the establishment of the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company and the American Stores in Easton. F. W. Woolworth's five-and-ten-cent store, too, appealed to the bargain hunting instinct, even though articles exceeded the ten-cent limit. At the same time the Sears-Roebuck and Montgomery Ward mail order catalogues extended their influence to every farm and hamlet. Its many pages of illustrated and animated detail proved to be the "world's best literature" to many a farm house.

By 1939 there were 300 stores in the county with a total sales of \$6,510,000, placing Talbot third among the counties of the Shore. Easton, of course, had the lion's share of these sales, with some \$4,328,000.¹³³

To man these industries and businesses there were 8,047 potential wage earners in 1940, of whom 812 were seeking work, 2,052 were engaged in agriculture, 440 in fishing, 446 in construction, 311 in food, 258 in wholesale trade, 937 in domestic service and 442 in the professions to name only a few. Of this last category, law, medicine and theology seem the most popular. Although apparently large enough to care for the normal demands of the county, the labor supply had decreased since 1900. This is clearly indicated in a study of the Negro population. In 1900 it was 7,466, or 36% of the total population. By 1940 the number of Negroes decreased to 5,732, or 30% of the population. These Talbot Negroes moved away from labor in the field to the city and factory jobs. Domestic help, too, by 1949 had been lured to other work at better pay. By 1949, however, because of the competitive bidding for his services, the improvement of education and the consciousness and pride in his race, the Negro's position has improved. Meanwhile segregation still applies in hotels, taverns, soda fountains, schools and movies. There are no Negro police, nor are there any parks, tennis courts or golf courses for the Negro.

Communication and Education—In the perennial quest for the rainbow, Talbotians have had to deal with two vital questions—transportation and education. Sometimes defying solution, they have been outstanding problems fraught with tremendous consequences since earliest days. The zeal for transportation did not spend itself with the completion of the railroad and steamship lines. Close business and social connections with the cities of the North, Baltimore and Washington, demanded better and more rapid communications. Not only this, but the distance from farm to town placed a premium on the rapidity of locomotion. By the second decade of the twentieth century the auto came into general use. With the

passage of time it promoted school consolidation, ended rural isolation and broadened farm associations. The farmer and waterman profited more than anyone else from motor traction. The passenger car ended the farmer's isolation, the truck carried his goods to market and the tractor revolutionized his agricultural methods. The waterman was aided by the application of gasoline power to boats used in the crabbing, fishing and oystering business. But the automobile brought with it problems: the construction and repair of roads, the flood of vacationists and the safety of the people. Ill drained, narrow, gravel roads were no longer adequate for the automobile age. An era of road building began. Through highways were widened and surfaced with asphalt or concrete, the secondary roads macadamized, and all roads made available to travel. But it was not enough to construct highways. They had to be made safe for the motorist. Talbot County was designated as headquarters for Barrack (I) of the Maryland State Police with jurisdiction extending to Kent, Queen Anne, Caroline and Dorchester. Their troopers patrol the highways and render valuable assistance to the local law enforcement officers.¹³⁴

The opening up of the county brought the city vacationist with his easy money. Not only were service stations, billboards, road houses, inns, curio-and-antique shops and historical markers set along the highways, but Oxford, St. Michaels and Tilghman's Island became the mecca of the fishermen from out of the county. Supplementing the car and rivalling the train and bay steamer for business was the motor coach and motor truck. In an effort to meet the threat of the private auto, the Pennsylvania Railroad replaced its steam trains with a gasoline driven-passenger coach from Wilmington to Oxford. In 1946 the Chesapeake Airways inaugurated a daily schedule between Baltimore and Ocean City out of Easton's big airport, with its 4,000-foot runway, up to date flying schools, service shops and hangars. Municipal Field is the result of a dream of the Hathaway Brothers, who on their private field near Lee Haven Creek in the late twenties made the first advances in flying in the county. Despite the advent of the airplane, gasoline driven vehicles, the steamer and railroad, adequate transportation remained one of the unsolved problems of the county. By 1948 declining revenues had forced the withdrawal of the steamship lines between Baltimore and Easton Point, the trains on the old BC&A¹³⁵ Railroad out of Claiborne, the curtailment of the freight and passenger service from Wilmington and the discontinuance of the Love Point and Rock Hall ferries. Thus the entire burden of ferry traffic had to be handled by the State ferry at Matapeake and Claiborne. With this service already overburdened, increased trans-Chesapeake facilities were necessary. On September 12, 1947, Governor Lane announced that a contract had been agreed upon for the engineering and preparation of bid plans and construction of the Bay bridge, long a controversial subject in Talbot. The conservatives saw in it a threat to their beloved "Shore," while the more progressive saw it as the one vital link to a new and glorious era.¹³⁶ Even so, "the motor car was here to stay." It had sounded the death knell of the steamboat and the railroad. For even now there were constant reminders by the Pennsylvania Railroad that the service between Oxford and Wilmington would be discontinued if receipts did not increase.

During the twentieth century the outstanding cultural achievement in Talbot has been the growth and development of education.¹³⁷ One of the most noticeable trends over the fifty year period has been the increase in secondary education, despite the decline in population. In 1900 there were 4,615 students in the schools.

Of this number there were only 343 above the sixth grade. In 1945 the total number of children in school had declined to 2,806, but the number in high school had more than doubled to 733. The cost of this education advanced abruptly to the horror of many. In 1900 the financial outlay per pupil amounted to about \$10.95, while in 1945 the figure stood at a staggering \$118.78. The total disbursements in 1945 amounted to \$283,594.72, of which the county paid only \$132,272. The remainder was made up from state and federal funds. Out of the total



"Troth's Fortune," Near Easton, Talbot County

local tax assessments, some 49.7% is devoted to school purposes. Only a part of this increase represents a real gain for the students, since much of it is a result of cheaper money and increased costs. Salaries have mounted steadily. In 1900 about 24% of the teachers were men, but by 1945 the number had declined to 14%, of which only 3% taught in the elementary schools. Except for administrative positions, the education of Talbot youth was being carried on by women. Apart from the difficulty of securing well-trained teachers at servants' pay, there was an advance in educational standards. Turning from emphasis on college preparatory training, the high schools, insisting that all should have the opportunity to obtain a secondary education, developed a program of vocational, agricultural and business training. An extensive construction program therefore began in 1918 with the Tilghman High School and continued periodically with high school buildings in Trappe in 1922, Cordova in 1926, Oxford in 1927, Easton in 1929 and St. Michaels in 1938.¹³⁸ Progress, too, was made in adult education, especially among the colored.

In all the educational changes that occurred during the half century, one of the most important and far reaching was the movement toward consolidation. In 1900 there were 70 schools operating throughout the county. The number by 1945 had dropped to 25, of which 21 were elementary and 4 were secondary

schools. But even so, the consolidation program meant added cost for transportation. By 1945 there were 1,540 Talbot children, or about 54% of the total school population, being transported to the centralized schools at a cost of \$40,532.21, or 14% of the entire budget allocated for school purposes.¹³⁹ But consolidation, construction and vocational training were not all. The average period of instruction has been extended to 180 days, an additional year added to the high schools, and the curriculum widened and enlarged in an attempt to make the student conscious of the community and the world in which he lives. The light-hearted carelessness of the students, and their lack of interest in their books has been criticized. Parents have charged that social life, organizations, athletics and dramatics take up more time than is spent in actual studying. All these things created discussion from time to time, but under the able guidance of Superintendent J. Willard Davis and the school board, the county system of white and colored education has become one of the foremost on the Shore.

The majority of people still kept abreast of the times by reading periodicals and newspapers. The *Baltimore Sun*, The *Philadelphia Inquirer*, The *Baltimore News-Post*, and the two New York papers, the *Times* and *Herald Tribune*, provided the daily reading matter, while the three weeklies, the *St. Michaels Comet*, the *Easton Journal*, and The *Easton Star Democrat* gave the Talbotian the home news during most of the period. Sam Shannahan, editor of the *Star Democrat*, made this old paper into one of the nation's outstanding weeklies. His work of transmitting local news has been carried on by Clem Bray and Norman Harrington. Though less widely read than newspapers, magazines occupied an important place in intellectual life. At the turn of the century *Everybody's*, *McClure's*, *Harper's Weekly* and the *Independent* were the most popular. Half a century later Talbotians were devoted followers of *Life*, *Readers Digest*, *Saturday Evening Post*, *Colliers*, *Time*, *Ladies Home Journal*, *The Country Gentleman*, *Love Stories*, *Amazing Stories*, *Detective Stories* among others. But strangely enough, many people read little except the comics and the sports page, despite the attempts of the Talbot County Free Library to stimulate them through its many activities. With its Reading Clubs, the Best Books, language classes, exhibits by Elizabeth Booream, Mrs. Carlton Slagle, Bruce Spiers, Mrs. Arthur C. Dodge, Mrs. John Askens and Milton Caniff, the Library has become the intellectual center of Talbot.¹⁴⁰ Despite the growth of enrollment in the high schools and the excellent library facilities, many were still handicapped by insufficient formal instruction. Fortunately, unofficial educational agencies helped to offset this deficiency. Of these, none more strikingly evidenced the quest for knowledge than the Chautauqua movement, which came to Easton for the first time in 1911. Large crowds attended these summer sessions in the Chautauqua tent on the old high school grounds on Hanson Street and listened to lectures on a variety of subjects.¹⁴¹ The rapid development of women's clubs, current events clubs, the Easton Community Concert Association, the Parent-Teachers associations,¹⁴² and church organizations provided opportunity for group study. Correspondence schools have always been available for those with the determination and perseverance to complete their courses.

From Rag-Time to Bebop—There were tremendous changes, too, in Talbot life. Certain simplifications had come about in domestic economy and in living. The traditional home of the Talbot family in 1900 required an amount of labor that would seem appalling to us. There were coal scuttles to be emptied, kerosene lamps to be cleaned, filled and trimmed, expanses of carpets to

clean, large tubs of clothes to wash, canning to do and huge Sunday and holiday meals to prepare. All this had changed by 1949. A distinct reaction against the large house of the nineteenth century had been in evidence for several decades. The rising cost of building materials, the diminishing size of the family, and the difficulty of obtaining servants contributed to this trend. At the same time, various inventions lightened the burdens of housework. A far simpler diet, too, was being followed. Not only was the Talbotian eating different food, but he was eating less. Lunch declined to a point where a sandwich and a coke at Hill's, Horne's, Johnson's, Read's, Trader's or People's drug store were sufficient. There were less clothes to wash. The massive corsets and starched petticoats had disappeared, as had the bustle and the high starched collar. The increased leisure gave the women time for other activities. As their participation in the garden clubs and outside affairs broadened, their political enfranchisement could not be long delayed. On August 26, 1920, the nineteenth amendment became law and sex equality came to Talbot.

All classes in the first half of the twentieth century faced the problem of making use of their increasing leisure time. For the ordinary man, club life was provided in the numerous secret fraternal orders and the civic clubs. By 1949 there were the Masons, Odd Fellows, and Elks; the Rotary and its younger brother the Lions; the volunteer fire companies; the Country Club and the Yacht clubs. All these gave the business man something to do, and enabled members to recover a sense of self importance. Talbot thus became a county of joiners in the twentieth century. At the same time, these years saw the rise of spectator sports. Baseball, through the instrumentality of the Eastern Shore League, in which Easton was represented, proved to be the most popular of the professional games. With the elimination of football from the public school agenda, many fans attended games at Annapolis, Chestertown, Baltimore and Philadelphia. Most people enjoyed the pageantry of the affair as much as the game itself. Soccer remained essentially a high school game, in spite of the attempts of the Eastern Shore Soccer League to make it otherwise. On many occasions, Easton represented the Shore in the state high school playoffs. Basketball was inaugurated during the late twenties in the county high schools, and developed rapidly. The construction of a quarter-mile cinder track by the Works Progress Administration and the annual field day at Community Park stimulated interest in track and field. Children from all over the county came to participate in divisions according to weight and age. Champions in each group competed in Baltimore in the state championships. Although the ubiquitous sea-nettles hamper swimming to some extent, the opportunities of Talbot's numerous rivers provide a challenge to the visitor. Golf, tennis, yachting and motor-ing represented the most notable additions to individual outdoor recreational life, while the moving picture, the phonograph, radio and television opened pleasant ways of killing time indoors. Golf and tennis, traditional sports of the wealthy amateur, were fostered by the organization of the Talbot Country Club in 1910. Membership was reasonable, so that playing privileges were open to almost all. Top flight tennis was inaugurated by an annual invitational tournament open to the state's best amateurs. Yachting, too, became a great attraction. Beginning on a very modest scale, the Miles River Yacht Club of St. Michaels¹⁴³ held its first regatta in 1921. The events were devoted exclusively to work boats. This "Poor Man's Regatta" helped to break through the snob-bishness which formerly surrounded such a spectacle. Including some eighty events in 1949 and covering a two day period, acceptance of an entry is not

based on the size or cost of the boat, but on the spirit of good fellowship and sportsmanship. Mason Shehan, Lowndes Johnson and others have participated successfully in both the Star Boat and Comet class internationals.¹⁴⁴ Not to be outdone, the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Club and the Tred Avon Yacht Club inaugurated their regatta in 1939. Oxford Race week is as traditional as the grand contest of the Chesapeake Bay Fishing Fair Association at Tilghman's Island. Organized in 1936 to "acquaint the people of the nation with the Chesapeake Bay and its wonderful fishing grounds," it has also "made new opportunities for the Bay Country young people."¹⁴⁵

Styles in indoor amusements have changed. Until the advent of the moving picture theatre, minstrel shows still toured the county, while the Show Boat found wide audiences at St. Michaels, Easton and Oxford. The majority of people found recreation in oyster roasts, Sunday school picnics, church festivals and neighborhood parties with their usual guessing and kissing games. The Saturday night band concert was a regular feature at the county seat, with the Easton Band performing. Dancing, too, underwent drastic changes in form, if not in purpose. From the tango and turkey trot with their wriggles, squirms and glides, it became a shuffle in a confined space. The pace quickened with the Black Bottom and the Charleston during the roaring twenties, and in the thirties and forties orchestras of Lew Startt, Eddie Bray, Russ Rell and Bill Harper, with their variations of jive and swing, enlivened the scene. Among parlor amusements, Mah-jong, 500, rook, monopoly, Chinese checkers and gin rummy attempted successively to displace bridge. None succeeded for very long. Periodically the "Easton Players" presented a stage classic or a Broadway production, while the high schools had their junior and senior plays and operettas. But the radio and the moving picture provided the easiest, most available and least demanding form of amusement. By 1949 the "New Easton," "Avalon Theatre" and the St. Michaels "Marada Theatre" had provided escape for thousands from the realities of life on the Eastern Shore. Their precocious child, television, had already begun to threaten them.

The twentieth century brought many new problems to the Talbot churches. The depopulation of the countryside, the difficulties of financing church projects, especially in the depression years, the mobility of populations, the interruptions that crowded in to break their monopoly of the Sabbath, all served to test the resourcefulness of the church. Science gave rise to doctrinal controversy, but the clergymen turned their thoughts to the part that the church must play in society, in social work and in educational activities. The great majority of church goers knew little, however, and cared less about the liberalizing trends in theology, in church unity and the increasing emphasis on socialized religion. The rank and file were little affected by it all. Those who were on the church rolls wanted a shorter sermon, unencumbered by theology or thoughtful matter. Dressed in their Sunday best, they went to see and be seen. Travelling evangelists continued to stage their meetings, while large crowds of the curious gathered to hear the high pressure tactics of these sensationalists. A movement for interdenominational co-ordination of church activities within Talbot was begun about 1928 with the organization of the County Ministerial Association.¹⁴⁶ Church attendance declined during the depression. But this merely reflected the long-term trend toward secular interests. Sharply reduced revenues compelled the churches to turn over most of their charitable activities to the government. Be that as it may, services were still carried on in almost every village and community. All faiths were represented. In 1949 Episcopal

services were held at Christ Church and the Cathedral in Easton, at Holy Trinity in Oxford, St. Paul's in Trappe, Christ Church in St. Michaels, All Faiths in Tunnis Mills, and All Saints, Longwoods. In 1939 the Methodist sects of the county along with their parent churches united into a single denomination, thus healing a schism dating from 1828. Strong throughout Talbot, in 1949 they were centered in the Easton churches, Ebenezer, Calvary and Trinity. In the county there were churches at Oxford, Cordova, Tilghman, Royal Oak, St. Michaels and Bayside. These two denominations were by far the strongest. The Catholics held services at St. Peter and Paul's Church in Easton. The Baptists worshipped in Easton and Cordova; the Lutherans attended St. Paul's in Cordova and Grace in Easton; the Friends, of course, continued to meet at the Third Haven Meeting House, as they had been doing since the seventeenth century; while the Brethren met in the Church of the Brethren in Easton and the Oxford Pilgrim Holiness Church. The Christian Scientists held Sunday school and services at their First Church on 11 Federal Street, Easton.

And Tomorrow?—Talbot County in 1949, as in 1900 and 1700, was still agrarian, putting the interests of agriculture and fisheries above those of industry. The county believed in 1949 it had finally found a stable economy, based on its own resources and geared to the one absolute necessity of the Northern city-dwellers—food. Facing what some believed might be the most cataclysmic of all the depressions, Talbot hoped its middle-of-the-road economy would sustain it as none of the previous projects had managed to do.

The innate conservatism of its citizens had delayed the local government in shouldering some of its responsibilities. Better pay and better recreational facilities in Baltimore had lured away some of the more stable Negro elements, and they had been replaced by transient workers—hardly a fair exchange, or one that would profit the community. Forests had been depleted and no provisions made for their replenishment. The delectable sea creatures that once were thought as limitless as the ocean itself had shown signs of diminishing. There were those who claimed the citizens would pay dearly for their inattention to these little matters.

On the other hand, this very conservatism was the strength of a community that had maintained its individuality for almost three centuries. Basically the economy, the tenor of life, the graciousness of customs and the Southernness of outlook have not varied in 300 years.

Despite the railroads, highways and airfields, an influx of tourists in search of the picturesque, wealthy New York estate-seekers, and casual cannery workers, Talbot remained in 1949 about what it was in Colonial days—a community with a large Negro population determined to remain a “white man's county”; an intensely conservative citizenry, reluctant to embark on radical social or economic reforms, resentful of government interference, and hostile to labor unions or other outside organizing agents; a people placing great emphasis on kinship and family pride and more respectful of a good boat handler or horseman than of a scholar or an artist.

Facing the future, Talbot could make only one certain prediction: that fifty years thence, or even a hundred, if there remain a spot in America where a man with a certain minimum of resources can live a life of independence and dignity among his neighbors, that spot would be Talbot County, Maryland.

NOTES, CHAPTER XLVI

1. Land Office Records in Annapolis; Oswald Tilghman, *History of Talbot County, Maryland, 1661-1861* (Baltimore, 1915), II, 31. The second volume of this work is the only secondary source on Talbot County's history. It deals primarily with the period from Talbot's founding to the War of 1812, and consequently is an invaluable and indispensable aid for that period. Footnotes are lacking, the style is classical and ornamental and a great part of the volume has been devoted to legendary lore for which Talbot is famous.

2. W. H. Browne, et. al., eds., *Archives of Maryland* (Baltimore, 1884——), I, 425, III, 105, 448. These volumes are rich sources for historical data of the Eastern Shore. Mr. Moyses Stagwell was named temporary sheriff and Richard Woolman was elected Burgess to represent Talbot in the Maryland Provincial Assembly of 1662. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 17-30. The first commissioners were Lt. Richard Woolman, James Ringgold, William Coursey, Thomas South, Seth Forster, and Thomas Hyson, Jr. Swepson Earle, ed., *Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore* (Baltimore, 1916), 24-44. The article on Talbot County is written by J. H. K. Shannahan. J. L. Bozman, *The History of Maryland from its First Settlement in 1633 to the Restoration in 1660* (Baltimore, 1837). Swepson Earle, *The Chesapeake Bay Country* (Baltimore, 1938).

3. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 19.

4. *Ibid.*, 21.

5. *Ibid.*, 5-6.

6. *Ibid.*, 200-245; Earle, ed., *Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore*, 26.

7. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 4.

8. Thomas Bacon, *Laws of Maryland at large with proper Indexes* (Annapolis, 1765), chapter V; Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 200-228. The commission was composed of Robert Grundy, John Dawson, Thomas Robins, Thomas Smithson, John Hawkins and Robert Goldsborough. The last court was held at Oxford on March 20, 1711.

9. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 218-231. Talbot Court House later became known as Easton.

10. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 17-18; J. T. Scharf, *History of Maryland* (Baltimore, 1879), I, 330-333; *Archives of Maryland, Council Proceedings, 1688-1693*, 67-69, 112-114; Oliver Perry Chitwood, *A History of Colonial America* (New York, 1931), 278-280.

11. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 17-18.

12. Scharf, *op. cit.*, I, 355-358.

13. *Ibid.*, I, 377.

14. James McSherry, *A History of Maryland* (Baltimore, 1850), 99-112.

15. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 358-359; Basil Sollers, "The Acadians Transported to Maryland," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, III (1908), 1-21. See the general narrative of this Eastern Shore History.

16. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 274-276.

17. *Ibid.*, 521-530; Scharf, *op. cit.*, I, 269-271; 392-393. On October 24, 1684 the great meeting house situated upon Tred Avon Creek was opened. From this time until the Revolution the Quakers increased in number and influence.

18. The Act failed to become law as it did not receive the sanction of the British sovereigns. Despite this parishes were formed and ecclesiastical administration followed along these lines for many years. Percy Skirven, *The First Parishes of Maryland* (Baltimore, 1923), 105-106; 143-147; *Maryland Archives*, XXIII, 21; XIX, 215; Land Records of Talbot County; Skirven, *Some Colonial Churches of the Eastern Shore* (Baltimore, 1917). Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 271-273.

19. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 291-293.

20. *Maryland Herald*, August 26, 1800.

21. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 313-315.

22. Associated with Cromwell, the founder of Methodism in Talbot, and Garrett-

son was Joseph Hartley. This man was arrested and imprisoned at Easton for teaching and preaching the gospel of his faith. He later married and settled at Dundee in Miles River Neck. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 297-310.

23. Probably the first chapel was constructed in 1790 at Easton on Goldsborough Street on the east side of Thoroughgood Lane. A second meeting house was built in Bayside at Miles End about 1804, while a third was put up near Royal Oak in 1808 on land acquired from Henry Banning. A fourth chapel was erected on Ferry Neck about 1817. Reverend Dr. Phoebus, *Saints and Shrines of Early Methodism in Bayside* in Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 302-310.

24. The board was composed of Reverend Henry Nicholls, Robert Goldsborough, Colonel Matthew Tilghman Ward, Robert Ungle, Esq., William Clayton, Thomas Bozman and John Oldham. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 465.

25. Bacon, *Laws of Maryland, 1723*, Chapter 19.

26. Two early masters are remembered—George Rule for his skill and excellence; George Ewings for his rascality. Descriptions of some of the early masters may be found in Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 435-495.

27. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 435-495; *Maryland Gazette*, June 12, 1751, April 12, 1753.

28. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 450-456.

29. George Alsop, *A Character of the Province of Maryland* (London, 1666), 373. The lot of the convict laborer is discussed in Basil Sollers, "Transported Convict Laborers in Maryland during the Colonial Period," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, II (1907), 17-47.

30. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 138-140.

31. So numerous were the ducks that "when they flew up there was a rushing and vibration of the air like a great storm coming through the trees." Jaspar Dankers and Peter Sluyter, *Journal of a Voyage to New York and a Tour in several of the American Colonies, 1679-1680* (Brooklyn, 1867), 204; Scharf, *op. cit.*, II, 1-6.

32. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 335.

33. Lawrence C. Wroth, "A Maryland Merchant and His Friends in 1750," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, VI (1911), 213-240.

34. Captain Jeremiah Banning's *Journal* in Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 357.

35. For an excellent discussion of the tobacco situation see Vertrees J. Wyckoff, *Tobacco Regulation in Colonial Maryland* (Baltimore, 1936).

36. *Easton Star*, May 28, 1805.

37. Prentiss Ingraham, *Land of Legendary Lore* (Easton, 1898), 27-32; Tilghman *op. cit.*, II, 363. An excellent general sketch of the early history of Oxford may be found in *Ibid.*, II, 332-374. Life flowed on in a monotonous vein, interrupted only by the capture of rockfish. The first sign of a reawakened Oxford appeared in 1847 when John Allen established a school later known as the Maryland Military Academy. By 1855 the principal building was destroyed by fire and never replaced. The school became extinct but attention had been called to Oxford. In 1849 a regular mail service was opened. The government was carried on by the Justices of the Peace and Commissioners. In 1852, Oxford, with a population of 277, was incorporated as a town and given a charter. About this time, too, the foundation for Oxford's future prosperity was being laid. An oyster packing house was built, and in 1866 Nathaniel Leonard opened a shipyard, saw and grist mill. In 1871 the Maryland and Delaware Railroad was completed, and in 1875 a pier was built at its terminus. As a result of this stimulation, the population of Oxford town grew from 227 in 1870 to 1,243 in 1900. By 1949 the population had dropped from 1,000 to 850. There is still, however, a droning of saws, a smell of freshly painted hulls, of tar, mahogany and cedar shavings at the ways of the Oxford Boatyard Company, J. Ramsey Speer, general manager; Ralph H. Wiley; the Island Creek Boat Shop; and Crockett Brothers. Schooners and clipper ships are no longer on the production line, but sailing boats, fishing launches and cabin cruisers slide off the ways at frequent intervals.

38. Scharf, *op. cit.*, I, 374.

39. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 11.

40. The sport of kings continued in the nineteenth century. One might read of an episode in 1823 in Martha Seth Darrow's "Nothing New Under the Sun," *The Easton Star Democrat*, July 16, 1948, "A Sweepstakes free for any three or four year old colts on the Peninsula; to be entered on or before the 22nd of September next; will be run over a beautiful course already prepared in the neighborhood of Wye Mills."

41. Scharf, *op. cit.*, II, 42.

42. *Easton Star Democrat*, April 29, 1949; Hulbert Footner, *Rivers of the Eastern Shore* (New York, 1944).

43. Those justices present were Risdon Bozman, John Goldsborough, William Thomas, Jonathan Nicols, Tristram Thomas, and Jacob Hindman.

44. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 40-46; Book of Civil Judgements, Proceedings of the Court, August, 1765, Clerk's office, Talbot County; Scharf, *op. cit.*, I, 543-544.

45. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 52-53.

46. Matthew Tilghman, born on February 17, 1718 was the son of Richard Tilghman. The year 1741 was a memorable one for he not only became Captain of a troop of horse, but he was also appointed as associate justice of the Talbot County Court. He served as presiding judge from 1770-1775. Between 1751-1775, with but few exceptions he sat in the Maryland Assembly. He became Speaker in 1773-1774. Casting his lot with the popular cause, he drafted the remonstrance to the king against the Townshend Acts and signed the non-importation agreement. He presided over the Maryland Conventions 1774-76, was chairman of the Talbot Committee of Correspondence, was president of the Council of Safety, and headed every Maryland delegation to the Continental Congress from 1774-1776. Dumas Malone, ed., *Dictionary of American Biography* (New York, 1936), XVIII.

47. Scharf, *op. cit.*, II, 119.

48. *Maryland Gazette*, November 1, 1770.

49. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 60. *Maryland Journal*, July 2, 1774. Matthew Tilghman, Edward Lloyd, Nicholas Thomas and Robert Goldsborough, IV, were the deputies.

50. *Maryland Gazette*, April 6, June 8, July 13, 1775. Of the sixteen counties in Maryland, Talbot's contribution ranked her twelfth on the basis of wealth and population. For an excellent study of the Revolution in Maryland see C. A. Barker, *The Background of the Revolution in Maryland* (New Haven, 1940).

51. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 72-73.

52. *Ibid.*, II, 74-132.

53. Tench Tilghman to James Tilghman, October 31, 1776 in *Ibid.*, 100.

54. For an authoritative sketch of Tench Tilghman see Homer Bast, "Tench Tilghman—Maryland Patriot" in *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XLII (1947), 71-94. In addition see *Memoir of Lt. Colonel Tench Tilghman*, published anonymously (Albany, 1876), an eulogistic biography containing in an appendix some of the Tilghman diaries and letters. See also Chapter XX in this work by Homer Bast.

55. Kathryn Sullivan, *Maryland and France, 1774-1789* (Philadelphia, 1936), 1-83.

56. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 131-132.

57. Philip A. Crowl, "Anti-Federalism in Maryland, 1787-1788," *The William and Mary Quarterly*, Third series, IV, No. 4, 446-469.

58. *The Easton Star*, November 26, 1805. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 375-414; *Easton Gazette*, December 20, 1823.

59. These were Robert Dodson, John Dorgan, William Merchant, James Dodson, and Thomas S. Haddaway, Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 382-383.

60. *Ibid.*, 375-414. St. Michaels had by 1820 lost its pre-eminent position in the ship building trade. By that year many of the yards were abandoned, while those that were still active continued with a greatly diminished force. It was not until 1840, under the leadership of E. W. Wiley and Robert Lambdin, that the construction of

small bay boats was revived, and the village began to grow again. By 1848, with an increase in prosperity, the people of St. Michaels, who had hitherto neglected to elect commissioners for their town, finally did so. In 1880 the Board was decreased to three members. In 1840, the population stood at 499, an increase of only 222 in four decades, but by 1850, the population had almost doubled to 858. It was even necessary in 1852 to incorporate more land into the town. The population continued to grow through the Civil War period to 1880, when it reached 1,471. By this year there were three shipyards specializing in the building of schooners, pungies and bugeyes. In fact this activity at St. Michaels made Talbot the second county on the Shore in the production of bugeyes. Even though the population of Talbot increased during the period 1880-1900, St. Michaels declined to 1,043. The railroad, for once, had not resulted in greater wealth and prosperity. During the last fifty years the population of St. Michaels has fluctuated. From a high in 1910 of 1,517 the community dropped to 1,307 in 1940.

61. Scharf, *op. cit.*, III, 56.

62. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 141-190.

63. *Easton Star*, April 20, 1813.

64. *Niles Register*, August 28, 1813.

65. *Centreville Observer*, February 25, 1813; *Easton Star*, August 24, 1813; *Niles Register*, October 9, 1813.

66. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 141-190; William M. Marine, *The British Invasion of Maryland, 1812-1815* (Baltimore, 1913), 55-57.

67. *Easton Gazette*, February 8, 1823.

68. Easton dates back to 1710, when the court authorized the purchase of several acres of land for 5,000 pounds of tobacco. Upon that tract, near the site of the present court house, a brick building was erected. A tavern to accommodate those who attended court, as well as stores and dwellings were built. By 1785 the village at the Court House had become the chief center of business activity in the County. At this time there was considerable rivalry between the Court House and Dover, for the inhabitants of the latter proposed to make that town the county seat. Official sanction was given in 1788 to that plan, when in the first session of the Legislature it was recommended that a court house be erected there. Nothing came of this however, for Talbot Court House became the seat of state government on the Shore. The present court house was constructed in 1794 to accommodate the general court, while the name of the village was changed to Easton in 1788. By 1790 Easton had a population of 670, while fifty years later there were 1,413 people. Growth was slow. Easton was made a port of entry in the collection district of Oxford in 1803, with Charles Gibson the inspector.

69. *Easton Gazette*, November 13, 1824, November 14, 1828.

70. See Chapter by James C. Mullikin. Also Charles J. Truitt, *Historic Salisbury Maryland* (New York, 1932), 51-52.

71. Scharf, *op. cit.*, III, 242.

72. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 408.

73. *Easton Gazette*, January 7, 1854-December, 1855.

74. *Ibid.*, November, 1855; Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 408-409.

75. Scharf, *op. cit.*, I, 377.

76. *Easton Gazette*, January 14, 1854.

77. *Ibid.*, April 7, 1855.

78. *Ibid.*, November 29, 1859.

79. Jeffrey R. Brackett, *The Negro in Maryland* (Baltimore, 1889). This is an excellent account of Negro slavery in Maryland.

80. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 366-367, 408-409; Scharf, *op. cit.*, III, 518.

81. F. R. Kent, *The Story of Maryland Politics* (Baltimore, 1911).

82. *Easton Journal*, March 24, 1870, April 21, 1870, November 3, 1870, November 10, 1870.

83. *Easton Gazette*, November 14, 1872. The County returned Spence (Republican) for Congress over Wilson by 1,664-1,546. Scharf, *op. cit.*, III, 716. Although

the County returned Grant in 1872 by a vote of 1,663-1,521, Maryland voted for Greeley.

84. *Easton Gazette*, August 6, 1887.

85. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 410-414.

86. John Beale Bordley, *Essays and Notes on Husbandry and Rural Affairs* (Philadelphia, 1799).

87. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 22-29.

88. *Easton Gazette*, June 20, 1855. The McCormick reaping and mowing machine were advertised in the local papers in the decade of the '50s.

89. *Twelfth Census of the United States*, Agriculture, Part I and II (Washington, 1902); *Eighth Census of the United States*, Agriculture (Washington, 1864), 72-73.

90. *Twelfth Census of the United States*, Manufacture, Part II (Washington, 1902), 320-345; *Eighth Census of the United States*, Manufacture (Washington, 1865), 227.

91. *Easton Star Democrat*, July 2, 1948, for an account of Easton in the 1880s. Also *Easton Gazette*, 1887-1889.

92. *Easton Gazette*, July 21, 1888, July 28, 1888.

93. Its body built of wood and sole leather was shaped somewhat like a football. It was swung on thick straps of leather riveted. Capacity was 6-9 people. Later the Concord coach was introduced. The flattening of the top and the enlarging of the body gave more room inside, and after railings were installed permitted the carrying of baggage on the roof. Seymour Dunbar, *A History of Travel in America* (New York, 1937), 530.

94. *Easton Journal*, December 9, 1869.

95. *Easton Gazette*, January 14, 1854; J. H. K. Shannahan, *Steamboat'n Days* (Baltimore, 1930), 1-8; *Advertiser*, June 11, 1819; Dunbar, *op. cit.*, 405; *Easton Journal*, December 9, 1869, December 16, 1869.

96. Shannahan, *op. cit.*, 45-53.

97. Dunbar, *op. cit.*

98. *Easton Gazette*, May 19, 1855, December, 1855.

99. *Easton Journal*, December 9, 1869.

100. *Easton Gazette*, August 6, 1887.

101. Truitt, *op. cit.*, 103-108.

102. *Easton Gazette*, 1822, reprinted *Easton Star Democrat*, July 16, 1948.

103. *Easton Gazette*, November, 1855.

104. *Seventh Census of the United States*, Population (Washington, 1850).

105. Paul Winchester and Frank D. Webb, eds., *Newspapers and Newspaper Men of Maryland, Past and Present* (Baltimore, 1905), 9-10.

106. *Easton Gazette*, September 10, 1887, September 17, 1887.

107. *Ibid.*, April 30, 1854.

108. *Ibid.*, December 1, 1888.

109. *Ibid.*, August 6, 1887, August 13, 1887.

110. *Easton Star Democrat*, July 2, 1948.

111. Tilghman, *op. cit.*, II, 271-320.

112. In Oxford the cornerstone of Old Trinity was laid on April 20, 1853, but the church was not completed until 1892 when under the direction of the Reverend Mr. Collins the original plans of Upjohn were carried to completion. In 1945, fire destroyed the church once again, but with the support of the entire County construction was begun and completed by 1947. On June 9, 1851, the leading men of the community met together to form a congregation of the Protestant Episcopal church. A constitution was adopted, vestrymen were elected and plans were formulated for the building of a church. The Reverend Mr. H. F. M. Whitesides was appointed clergyman at \$300. annually. The congregation consisted of 50-100 people. *Easton Star Democrat*, December 5, 1947.

113. In 1870, the Episcopal Diocese of Easton established the Children's Home of

the Eastern Shore at Easton. A place of enviable reputation and deeds the Home has ministered to the children in need of friendly care. Through the years there has always been a band of devoted women who have provided a real Christian home for these unfortunates.

114. In the old horse and buggy days the political campaigns featured considerable pep and zeal. When the Eastonian desired to attend a political pow-wow in Tilghman, for example, it was an overnight outing. *Easton Star Democrat*, July 2, 1948.

115. *Talbot County Election Returns, 1896-1948*, in Talbot County Court House. All the statistical returns used in this section have been secured from this source. Kent, *op. cit.*, gives an excellent account of Maryland politics following the Civil War.

116. *Easton Journal*, April 30, 1898, May 7, 1898.

117. Kent, *op. cit.*, 352.

118. M. M. Higgins, *History of the Reincarnation of Easton, Maryland* (Easton, 1926).

119. *Easton Journal*, November 12, 1904.

120. Once again J. H. Covington was victorious, this time over A. L. Dryden by a vote of 2,062 to 1,876. In the gubernatorial elections of 1911, the Talbot voters, hostile to the Democratic Gorman machine for some time, turned in a vote of approval for P. L. Goldsborough, 1,927 to 1,884.

121. *Easton Star Democrat*, February 25, 1949.

122. *Easton Star Democrat*, February 24, 1948.

123. Once again Goldsborough carried the County handily, while George L. Radcliffe, Democrat, received the senatorial vote over I. C. France. In the gubernatorial elections Ritchie was swept out of office, Talbot helping to elect Nice, voting for him by 3,841 to 3,292.

124. November came and the conservative Tydings won his greatest victory in defeating Republican Leser by a vote of 4,793 to 2,130.

125. Willkie defeated the President by a vote of 4,368 to 3,689. At the same time, the County gave a Republican, R. F. Duer, the nod over D. Ward for the House of Representatives by a vote of 3,900 to 3,559. It was the first time since 1922 that a Democrat had lost the County in the congressional elections. George L. Radcliffe defeated Nice for the Senate—4,225 to 3,451.

126. T. R. McKeldin defeated W.P. Lane, Jr., 3,040-2,881 in the gubernatorial race; D. J. Markey beat H. R. O'Connor for senator 3,245-2,494, while for the House, Edward T. Miller of Easton won over D. G. Roe, 3,530-1,873.

127. *Easton Gazette*, July 6, 1871.

128. United States Department of Commerce, *County Data Book, 1945* (Washington, 1947); *Twelfth Census of the United States, Agriculture*, Part V and VI.

129. *Fifteenth Census of the United States, Manufactures*, Part III (Washington, 1933).

130. *Easton Star Democrat*, November 21, 1947.

131. *Ibid.*, December 24, 1947. In a speech before the Federalsburg Rotary Club, George T. Harrison, a member of the Maryland Tidewater Fisheries Commission, said, "Depletion of the natural resources of the Chesapeake Bay has reached alarming proportions, but they can be restored by a definite plan of action."

132. M. V. Brewington, *Chesapeake Bay Bugeyes* (Newport News, 1941), 1-6. This is a definitive book on this type of tidewater vessel.

133. *Sixteenth Census of the United States, Retail Trade, 1939* (Washington), 322-323. There are 413 business establishments in 1949 in Talbot. Of this total only 2 employ 100 or more workers, 9 have 50-99 employees, 22 have 20-49, 68 have 8-19, 86 have 4-7 and 226 have 0-3. Over one-half the firms are in this last category. United States Department of Commerce Reports, Office of Domestic Commerce; *Easton Star Democrat*, February 11, 1949.

134. Factors playing significant parts in bringing offenders to justice have been the trial magistrate system, established during the thirties, and the law enforcement

personnel, Sheriff Raymond Carroll, the Maryland State Police, the Town police of Easton under Chief Walter B. Wood and the able State's Attorney Harry E. Clark, successor to William Reddie. The modern police department of Easton was organized in 1906 with a bicycle patrolling chief and a privately employed night watchman. With the passage of years the force has increased steadily to care for the growing town. In 1931 a school for the instruction of the force was organized and a decade later the present book of police regulations went into use. The office of the State's Attorney has been filled by a number of able men. In recent years the list is long: W. E. Stewart, 1891-1895; Clayland Mulliken, 1895-1904; J. Harry Covington, 1904-1909; J. Frank Turner, 1909-1912; Charles J. Butler, 1912-1924; John C. North, 1924-1927; Henry H. Balch, 1927-1931; Oliver S. Mulliken, 1931-1938; William Reddie, 1938-1947 and Harry Clark, 1947—.

135. The name BC&A came to mean "Black Cinders and Ashes." The line was purchased by the Pennsylvania Railroad in the twenties. Passenger trains continued to run between Claiborne and Easton until 1931 when the ferry service between Claiborne and Annapolis was discontinued. In 1949 a freight train still occasionally snorts along between Easton and McDaniel. To handle the passenger traffic in the Tilghman area Harry C. Siffrin was granted a franchise in 1947 to operate a bus service between Fairbank, Tilghman, Sherwood, Whitman, McDaniel, Claiborne, St. Michaels, Newcomb, Royal Oak and Easton. *Easton Star Democrat*, September 12, 1947.

136. *Easton Star Democrat*, July 2, 1948. In an editorial the weekly paper pointed out that "ways and means of developing the country this side of the Bay" should be determined.

137. A. Flexner and F. P. Bachman, *Public Education in Maryland* (New York, 1916). This is a report by the General Education Board on the elementary and secondary schools of the state. It describes the organization of public education in Maryland; it estimates its efficiency and suggests changes that are desirable and feasible.

138. On January 25, 1949, the Talbot County Board of Education submitted a request to the County Commissioners for funds up to \$2,500,000 for a county wide school building program. At the same time it was requested that the Board be given authority to secure options on land suitable as sites for new white and colored junior-senior high schools at Easton. *Easton Star Democrat*, January 28, 1949.

139. *Seventy-Ninth Annual Report of the State Board of Education* (Baltimore, 1946), 16-263. These annual reports of the State Department of Education are an indispensable source for the educational aspects of the county. Tables present in graphic pictures the trends in the various phases of the educational program, not only for the current year, but in many instances over a 20 year period.

140. *Report of the Talbot County Free Library*, 1939, 1945-1948. See Chapter in this work on Libraries.

141. *Easton Star Democrat*, July 2, 1948, September 3, 1948.

142. The Easton Parent Teachers Association is especially active in bringing outstanding programs of cultural value to the County.

143. Among those Talbotians responsible for the guidance of the club during these years were: Edward R. Buck, William H. Green, William C. Mills, J. Norman Marshall, John P. Cosden, Thomas M. Scott, Dr. William T. Hammond, Nicols Hardcastle, Arthur Farmer, B. Frank Sherman, Robert A. Dodson, William C. Fink and Roger R. Ringgold. *Easton Star Democrat*, August 6, 1948.

144. Among the active star boat skippers belonging to the Eastern Shore Star class yachting racing fleet are William Myers, John Todd, Frank Bartlett, Mason Shehan and Barclay Trippe. *Easton Star Democrat*, February 11, 1949.

145. *Ibid.*, August 6, 1948.

146. *Ibid.*, February 24, 1949.

CHAPTER XLVII

Somerset — Our Nook in the Nation

*By Branche H. Phillips**

Somerset is either of two things, or both of them.

It is a place. It is a state of mind.

It is a place. You can find it on maps all precisely and correctly drawn and fitted into the larger pattern of Maryland. You can go there; ride its roads; tramp its fields; thread its woods; hunt its marshes; fly over it and, from no great altitude, view its whole area. You can visit its towns, its villages, its neighborhoods. It is a physical entity—earth and the waters thereof with a vastness of sky above them—a small nook in the nation; a place conformed to boundaries designed by nature or decreed by man.

Also, like neighboring Virginia, it is a state of mind. To the native-born it is "back home." From it they may fare far, may even never return; yet they remember it faithfully and forget not the heritage it endows them with. There abide old ways. There a living remembrance of old days still colors and mellows new thoughts. For its history is ancient and honorable and its folk for the most part are sprung from families long settled in this land. But the mellowness of its spirit does not sour into horny tradition or petrify into taboo. Rather it encourages the ever oncoming generations to emulate such excellencies as the past brought forth; to match its achievements; to equal or to surpass its contributions; and to increase and to enrich the common heritage. Tender new rootlings probe for footholds in its well worked soil; find that soil rich with the past; and draw therefrom vitality and strength for new growth.

Here, as in every place where men have long dwelt, is a feeling for and of the place itself, a sense of belongingness, a partaking of nature, native and elemental.

The speech of the people is cast in its peculiar idiom. Indeed each neighborhood has its own phrase and diction. Being of a border state, in Somerset one hears now and then the softness of southern speaking without the languidness of the southern drawl, and just as often the alert cadence of northern talking without the clippedness of northern twang. Always there is the distinctive, nose-fashioned manner of sounding syllables that marks the Eastern Shoreman.

Even its old towns and its old houses contribute to this nativeness of spirit. The old towns rest tranquilly beneath their parasols of trees; yet most of them blaze with light and hum with the business which sustains them. The old houses

* Born in 1909 in Wicomico County and educated in the public schools of that county, at Western Maryland College, College of William and Mary, and American University, Phillips has been engaged for some years as history teacher at Washington High School in Princess Anne where he became interested in local history. Formerly engaged in business, he has also had extensive military service, including war service in the Army of the United States.

stand back at the ends of streets which often originally were driveways, or at the heads of long lanes, aloof, quiet, proud, serene. Like those who have learned a jot of wisdom with increasing years, the old houses seem to sit and to contemplate the world and its doings, tolerantly comparing these with those of the elder days, but keeping the comparisons to themselves. The people who built the old houses and who lived in them are long gone. The old houses themselves remain a tangible link with the past.

It is this richness of age, these obvious and conscious links with the past, this my-own-of-which-I-am-a-part sense which give Somerset its mood and spirit. And it is this mood and spirit which, consciously or unconsciously, abides with every Somerset man and woman and marks them as its own.

Yet it is not age nor a long and honorable record which solely endow Somerset. Age and tradition, the olden days and the olden ways, like old folks, are respected, even revered; but they do not dominate and dictate like old men of the sea. For there is abroad a generous and moving spirit of progressiveness everywhere manifest which knits this place and this people to the great world itself. It widens their horizons; broadens their thoughts; expands the scope of their everyday living; and enables them to add to what already their forefathers have accomplished and achieved. It is not age itself, but the rich patina of age, which endows Somerset—like bayberry candles shedding a soft and golden glow in a stately dining room, touching silver and china and table linen, the furniture, the portraits of venerable ancestors with a luster which electric light fails to find, with a genteel touch, with the richness of reality.

The life of Somerset has always basically been conditioned by its being a tidewater land. A goodly number of its people gain their livelihoods from its waters. Those who are not watermen find themselves mightily affected by a problem of drainage, which is Somerset's primary bugaboo. Farmers from early times have constantly wrestled with this challengingly difficult matter. Only on the northeastern rim of the county does it abate its insistent plague. Folks who are neither watermen nor farmers, but who, as business men, depend for income directly upon the watermen and farmers, find their prosperity waxing or waning accordingly.

Somerset's area is 212,480 acres of which approximately a third is tidal marsh. The county is drained by five river systems, three of which are wholly within the county itself and reach inland like thrusting arms, dividing and dividing until their tributaries become little more than ditches. Like fingers, these tributaries probe deeply into the land and busily collect the waters which all eventually find their way into Chesapeake Bay. So many streams separate the county into tongues of land, called necks. Thus communication by road is straitjacketed into predestined patterns; for the roads needs must cling to such watersheds as they may. As a result the chief centers of habitation, except Crisfield, are road hubs. For example, the county seat, Princess Anne, is essentially at that point which is easiest reached from all localities of the county.

Rivers embrace Somerset on the north and east and south. Northward is the Wicomico emptying its cull of waters and its sluggish current through Tangier Sound into the Bay. Where Wicomico Creek joins that river, the Somerset boundary bends eastward to follow that creek and later Passerdyke Creek to the point where Somerset touches both Wicomico and Worcester counties. From here it follows to that dark serpent of water called Pocomoke River, which in turn leads it through Pocomoke Sound and to the Bay.

The Chesapeake Bay limits Somerset on the west. But Chesapeake waters do not wash the mainland of Somerset. Low lying South Marsh and Smith islands stand, frail ramparts of marsh, against the Bay. And between them and the mainland is Tangier Sound.

Betwixt the Wicomico River on the north and the Pocomoke River on the south lie, in order, the Manokin, the Big Annemessex and the Little Annemessex rivers. Of these the Little Annemessex is decidedly the smallest and the Manokin the largest. None of these is comparable to either Pocomoke or Wicomico, even Manokin being by comparison hardly more than a large creek. Nevertheless, the three lesser streams more directly affect the life of Somerset people, because, being wholly native to the area, they drain its heartland and define its regions.

The lower courses and the maws of all five rivers are alike in having vast marshes. The entire western face of the mainland, like the bay islands which are its western outposts, is a breadth and a span of marshland, in summer brightly green, in winter soberly dun. And the marshes, as faithfully as do the tides, follow the rivers upstream causing their channels to turn and twist in serpentine patterns.

Nowhere do the waters come joyfully rushing to the Bay. Because the land is slight in elevation, they go slowly, sedately, unhurriedly, seeming at times to pause, and wistfully and pensively to linger as if loath to stir at all. This leisurely flowing is straightway understood when one notes that the elevation of towns on the Bay rim of the county is meagre. For example, Oriole, on St. Peter's Creek, a Manokin feeder, is but two feet in elevation, and Princess Anne, at the head of navigation on Manokin but seven miles distant as the crow flies, is but 18 feet in elevation. The highland of the county lies along a narrow ridge between the headwaters of Manokin and the course of Dividing Creek on the northeastern face of the county. Here elevations reach 40 feet in places.

As is to be expected in such low lying country, here and there depressions, pockets, sinks occur. However slight, these collect waters which, finding no channel for rapid drainage, lie confined, listless, and dormant, silt up, eventually becoming cluttered with trees, undergrowth, and all the debris of solitary, forsaken places. These are swamps. Somerset has four such regions which, in proportion to the county's area, are sizeable and, with the far vaster marshes, deny valuable acres to cultivation. From the shadowy glooms and secret places of swamps, silently and quietly, like snakes from beneath brush piles, glide the dark and purling waters of Monie and Kings and Back creeks, the first to join Wicomico River at its mouth, the others to join Manokin. Pocomoke River and its tributary, Dividing Creek, are both darkly edged along their courses by swamps; and these swamps are largely of cypress, of which the great Pocomoke Swamp marks the northern limits.

The rivers neatly and very effectively separate Somerset into three large necks or tongues of land. Between Wicomico and Manokin rivers lies the upper and largest neck. And betwixt these two necks, much smaller than either but no less well defined, is the middle and smallest neck. In its turn each of these areas is cut up into lesser necks; and so the county finds itself a jigsaw pattern of communities.

In older times when communities were more self-sufficient and more self-centered, each developed its own habits and traditions and, especially, its own pride and loyalty. The coming of better means of transportation and communication has done much to dissolve the confining geographic fences and to begin integrating the communities into a stronger, more compact whole. The most apparent

evidence of this wholesome and vital process is seen in the consolidation of schools; and the provident policy of the school authorities in this matter is paying dividends. But old loyalties linger and old traditions and mores cling stubbornly and faithfully. The people of each community remembers its identity and suffers it not to vanish entirely away. But the enduring folk ways have not the musky smell of seldom used parlors. Indeed, it is to be hoped that the regimentation of modern economic forces will not obliterate the fine native natures of Somerset's communities, but absorbing and preserving them will partake of and find use for their best qualities, making them an integral and sustaining part of the county's increasing modern-day life.

Among Somerset's communities, even though it is the most set apart, Smith Island is not the least. Mainlanders, except those at Crisfield where the Island's contacts come ashore, know surprisingly little of their maritime province. But the culture of the county is enriched by this waterman's world. Here if anywhere can be found old ways preserved without being fossilized and new ways adopted and adapted without being idolized. An archipelago mostly marsh with a few limited acres of dry land; a region laced and threaded with numerous waterways: thoroughfares, creeks, runs, and guts, and indented with coves; a place of few trees; an all but submerged mite of terrain unsheltered against the whims of winds and waters alike, Smith Island supports a hardy, self-reliant, unspoiled, generous natured, and sincere people whose cultural contributions will yet be felt and appreciated.

But to come ashore again—

Equally with its waters, the trees of Somerset have wrought to shape the nature and the thoughts of its folk. Somerset people are forest dwellers. Everywhere are green woodlands. Towns shelter beneath old trees. Princess Anne people for years to come will speak wistfully of the great sycamores which recently were sacrificed to necessity. And homesteads rest snugly under the protecting arms of maples and oaks and even of pecans and hickories. On the county's eastern marshes, like a dark guardian rampart, lies a great woodland, long known as The Forest. Through it roads curl and wind and farms hide and wild life is little disturbed.

First comers to Somerset had to hew both space and habitations from the everywhere present forest. For years the readiest routes of travel and transportation were the water courses. Eventually trails reached out to knit the settlements and eventually the trails became roads and the roads highways. But, though pierced and threaded by roads, the forest yet remained, a green in-fencing wall, to segregate communities and to abet the rivers in encouraging a local provincialism. The forest did more. It limited horizons and confined vision. Hence contentment with old ways brooding long like a jealous spirit fought a losing but stubborn fight against new ideas, thus penalizing progress. Yet this same enforced provincialism served as a guard against rashness and as a leaven to improvement. And as the railroads and the automobiles, the telegraph and the telephone, and the radios, in turn, arrived and increased in useage, Somerset emerged from its isolation both from the other regions of its mother state and from within itself. This is a great and grand achievement—another victorious score in man's ancient struggle to overcome the handicaps of environment. And it ought to be remembered to Somerset's credit.

It would be unfair in drawing the picture of the physical nature of Somerset County to give no more than a passing nod to the marshlands which are so much a part of it.

To the casual passer-by a marsh is an unlovely thing; a place of emptiness and monotony; the abode of creatures unimaginable. But to whoever takes time to poke about the numberless mazes there comes in time a realization that the drabness thinly cloaks wondrous loveliness and that the loneliness is not solitary



(Photos by Perry-Pix, Salisbury)

Steamed Hard-Shell Crabs Cooling for Shipment, Crisfield

but teeming and alive with life and activity. One who learns to know the marsh grows glad that its beauty and its life are so well protected by a deceiving camouflage of desolation.

Look away across the oceans of marsh grass and you see here and there, like islands, clumps of pines. High, dry land is there; and quietness; and safe homes for wild creatures. Though the cattail is perhaps the best generally known of marsh plants, the marsh grass is the most common. It is sturdy, tough, solidly anchored in the waterous sod by a cunning root system. It is graceful in its proportions; and it bows with a slow-bending proud salute to passing winds.

Somerset marshes yield their take of muskrats, on occasion also called marsh rabbits. They shelter ducks, though the ducks are by no means as numerous as in days long gone; and to the migrating geese they give protected resting places and feeding grounds. From the less quakey areas are harvested many bales of marsh grass hay, which bring an addition to sometimes limited incomes.

Somerset's physical nature makes agriculture and fishing its mainstay occupations. Farming, except in a few favored places, is eternally confronted with problems of drainage. In the old days before the Civil War drainage ditches

were dug and maintained by slave labor. After that war they fell into disrepair and gradually became choked and clogged. Then the county undertook to keep them workably open; and thus came into being a system of tax ditches which still exists. The depression of the 1930s served to improve them a little through subsidized relief work; but this was by no means sufficient to the largeness of the task of draining arable acres. Today, however, groups of progressive farmers and business men, realizing the rôle of drainage in their joint economic life, are attacking the ancient problem by up-to-date methods and means and are slowly but surely reclaiming generous acres which long have lain unproductive hostages to slothful drainage.

The soils of Somerset produce grains and hays, vegetables and fruits. Of the county's 212,480 acres of area, 47.5%, or 101,084 acres, are in its 1,179 farms.¹ The remaining acres are largely in pastureland and woodland. The large portions devoted to tomatoes and beans support local canneries as well as help to feed distant centers of population. Though orchards have declined, they still are not to be discounted.

New life is clearly evident in Somerset's agricultural picture. To support this, let these data speak:

In 1945, (for which complete statistics are available), the value of farm products was \$5,964,943, or \$5,260 per farm. Comparatively, the 1940 value of farm products per farm was \$1,467. The value of farm machinery in 1945 was \$1,051,613, an increase of 35.8% over 1940. And land from which crops were harvested in 1945 showed an increase of 18.9% since 1940. Acreage devoted to these representative crops showed the respectively listed percentages of increase for 1945 over 1940:

Corn	7.5
Wheat	12.6
Rye	113.0
Barley	173.0
Soybeans	274.5
Oats	270.8
All hay	35.7
Alfalfa	84.4
Sweet potatoes	66.9
Vegetables	28.0

Land utilized for raising white potatoes showed a decrease of 46.5% for the same period, while that for orchards showed a 6% decrease.

Other important occupations in Somerset economy are those of lumbering and grazing. The former, thanks to extensive woodlands, is still active and productive, pine being the chief wood of the region. The latter is steadily increasing in importance and magnitude, with both dairy and beef cattle, and swine, on the increase. Nineteen hundred and forty-five over 1940 showed 165% more cattle and 72% more hogs; and horses had increased 11%.

One factor in the picture must not be overlooked—poultry raising. Here Somerset has forged ahead to a position of enviable rank. In the chief poultry region of the nation, the county has made tremendous advances in this field. In 1940, 612,260 broilers were produced. But in 1945 there was a seven-fold increase: 3,824,230. Turkeys, too, increased.

The improved income resulting from these advances was invested in the

purchase of electrical facilities and conveniences, tractors, trucks, radios, and other such improving possessions.

All in all the agricultural outlook for Somerset is promiseful and encouraging. One salient and particularly important manifestation of this, especially in the field of livestock raising, is the annual Princess Anne Livestock Show, which in 1949 held its eighth showing and in 1950 will probably become a two-day event. This



Chas. D. Briddell, Inc., Factory, Crisfield

show, sponsored by the Princess Anna Chapter of the Future Farmers of America, evidences the still growing interest and effort which Somerset people, especially the younger ones, are actively devoting to livestock raising. The prizes and awards of all grades regularly fetched home by Somerset exhibitors at large fairs and shows in other parts of Maryland and in Delaware attest the high quality of Somerset livestock.

The county's second major occupation, fishing, is decreed by the fluvial environment created by the Chesapeake Bay and its Somerset tributaries. Fish of several kinds, oysters, crabs, and clams are taken yearly in mountainous quantities and are sold outright or are processed in modern plants for extensive and hungry markets. Crisfield on the Little Annemessex in the southwestern tip of the county is justly acclaimed the seafood capital of the world. Its harbor is haven or port of regular call for craft of many sizes and styles, most of which are engaged in some phase of fishing. Not only from Somerset do they hail, but from upper Bay waters and from Virginia's Eastern Shore counties, while even the lordly Potomac and Rappahannock rivers, across the Chesapeake, send their daily take of seafoods to this mother hive. The lower part of the town, extending a narrow arm into the water, is built of oyster shells. Here are the docks, the waterfront buildings, the shipyards, the ice plant, all the activities and their attendant housings which make a sailor town. And over all is the salty fragrance of deep water blended

with the musky breath of marshes. The shipping is mostly gas-powered or diesel-powered. But sailing ships are not entirely ousted. Many engined craft have sailing rigging and gear to insure way if motors fail or to step up speed when winds are favorable. One of the most enjoyable sights to be seen anywhere is the oystering fleet at work, its white sails catching and reflecting the sunlight. Many of the craft employed in oystering are bug-eyes, that low, lithesome, graceful boat with sharply raking masts and triangular sails. These are peculiar to Chesapeake Bay and are eminently suitable to working in its waters. Of shallow draft, they can nose safely into creeks or hover over bars or mud flats or carry their burdens swiftly to their destinations.

Deal Island, 14 miles above Crisfield, is Somerset's other notable seafood center. Its fame is due not only to its fishing activities, which are large, but also to its having been the home of Joshua Thomas, known as the Parson of the Islands, who lived in the last century. Thomas was a sincere and ardent evangel of Methodism and habitually traveled on his many missions by log canoe, *The Methodist*. Footner tells that "*The Methodist* was made from one of the largest trees ever felled on the Shore." When it was cut down, "Its fall shook the earth for a mile around. It was then hauled to Kings Creek and towed down that creek, down the Manokin, and around Jericho Marsh to the Anniemessex, where it was finished and launched. It was twenty feet long and had a beam of five feet. After thirty years of hard service, it was as good as new. An old engraving represents it as having the usual raking masts and triangular sails of a Chesapeake canoe."²

Many pages have been devoted to the relations between Joshua Thomas and the British. He preached to them frequently, on their ships and in their camps, and is supposed to have made many converts among these English sailors and soldiers. He preached to them before the attack on Baltimore and prophesied that they would be unsuccessful.³

Originally called The Devil's Island, the name was changed to Deal Island in the days of Brother Thomas. Its twelve hundred inhabitants live on a strip of land three miles long and one wide. Even the most prosperous dwell in small, neat, and well-kept frame houses. The front yards of many face the roadway while their backyards give onto landings where boats are moored. To attest their fishing activity, let it be recalled that in 1938 the island sent just short of 2,000,000 soft crabs to northern markets.

Deal Island is separated from the mainland by a wide channel called The Thoroughfare, over which a bridge flings a binding tie. The area beyond the bridge was of old known as The Damned Quarter, because it lay adjacent to The Devil's Island. It is no longer so called, though nearby is a community called Dames' Quarter. The old name is still heard frequently in Somerset talk when Dames' Quarter is spoken of as Dams' Quarter.

The waterman's empire fronts the greater waters on the western margin of the county. The farmers naturally find land suitable to their requirements inland. But numerous folk living in the intermediate region gain livelihoods from both fishing and farming.

Besides the occupations directly based on land and water environment, Somerset has flour and feed mills, canneries, lumber yards, and some garment factories, the last being locally called shirt factories though they produce other articles of clothing than shirts alone. Being close neighbor to Salisbury on the north and Pocomoke City on the south, Somerset towns boast no large department

stores. But Crisfield, center for its corner of the county, is an exception, although its stores can in no way compare to those of the larger centers.

Whole volumes easily can be written about the land and the occupations of Somerset. The people who dwell there and who are the most important product of the environment as well as the workers in its economic activities deserve a full portion of attention. For it is the people who activate the place and in whose deeds and doings is found its living history.

Both family names and given names today common in Somerset attest the basic lineages of many families. Numerous families, some active and prominent in county and community affairs, some in state affairs as well, with justifiable pride wear as badges of honor the names of original settlers. And everywhere are found given names which echo old family connections and give clues to the sometime importance of persons now long dead.

That the folk of Somerset are essentially Anglo-Saxon in origin is plainly evident from their names. Indeed, those names which ring not in the familiar Anglo-Saxon tones more than likely are Norman-French in origin. The bearers of these, by the time they were transplanted to the New World, were thoroughly imbued with English mores and so served to stamp and to mold Somerset character as predominantly British in nature.

Let certain names be offered here to illustrate this important factor.

Among the very first families to settle in Somerset (between 1660 and 1666) were Adams; Ballard; Beauchamp; Boise (Boyce); Bosman (Bozman); Cattlyn (Catling, Catlin); Coulbourne (now variously spelled); Dennis; Dashiell; Elzey; Fountaine (Fontain); Hart; Hall; Hayman; Johnson; Jones; Long; Nellson (Nelson); Price; Revell (Revelle); Richards; Summer (Summers, Somers); Tillman; Tull; Wale (Walley, Whaley); Waller; Ward; White; Williams.⁴

The long enduring isolation of Somerset, brought about by its geographical location on Maryland's Eastern Shore as well as by the barrier of the Chesapeake Bay, has preserved here a people who still retain the fundamental character of their forefathers. Today the people are essentially English who have but adapted English ways to their New World environment. There are surprisingly few families of foreign extraction; though the infiltration of these can be expected from now on to increase. That Somerset folk will remain chiefly British is to be expected, for no great cities will arise, but the neighborhoods, the communities, the villages, and the towns will remain. This augurs well for this land. It would be unfortunate if such fundamental American natures—natures springing from mother-sources—were to be dissolved into something which would dilute dangerously their finest qualities. The character of the folk of a place is the vital aspect of its history, more so than are the deeds of its heroes, the creations of its craftsmen, the achievements of its statesmen. For in this is preserved the living pulse of its being and the hope of its future.

It is, however, the doings of a people which, being recorded, make its "history." How, then does Somerset's record read?

In the forgotten annals of unreliable memory is forever hidden the identity of the very first white man to look upon the land which became Somerset. But recorded history gives Verrazano, an Italian sailing for the King of France, the honor of being first to come questing hereabouts. As was the custom of explorers, Verrazano, in 1524, worked his way inland from Chincoteague Bay for a distance of about 10 miles until he was stopped by the Great Pocomoke Swamp. Then he returned to his ship, *Dauphine*, and put to sea. And for a little more than three-

quarters of a century the native Indians were not troubled by the strangers from across the great waters.

Then, in 1603, when Bartholomew Gilbert landed somewhere in the vicinity of the two Annemessex rivers he was not tenderly welcomed. Young Gilbert, searching for survivors of Raleigh's Roanoke, sheltered in Chesapeake Bay against storms, and thus accidentally became the second white man known to touch this region. Going ashore for water, Gilbert and a small party were ambushed; and Gilbert was slain. Hastily boarding ship, the survivors made for home, abandoning their search for the lost colonists of Roanoke.

Next to come poking his inquisitive nose into the waterways which lace this land was the active and valiant captain of Jamestown, John Smith, in 1608. On his famous Map of Virginia, published in England in 1612 and plotting his exploration of Chesapeake Bay, he delineates the bayside margins of the county and marks down its large rivers. Fifty-eight years were to pass before the region was to receive the name of Somerset; but its physical pattern is plainly evident on Smith's Map. There on the south comes the Pocomoke River to meet the Bay, and on the north the Nanticoke. The Pocomoke River, Smith called Wighco. The Nanticoke he names Kuskarawaok. Smith probed inland short distances along the larger streams and noted pertinent bits of information about the countryside and the Indians who dwelt there.

Trade with the Indians began early. The Manokins were bartering with the white men certainly in 1620,⁵ for old records mention ventures for trade to the Manokin River in that year. The Manokin village was situated in what came to be called Indian Neck, known now as Stewart's Neck. Stewart's Neck lies generally west of Kings Creek (Peninsula Junction) with Jones Creek on the north and the stream Kings Creek on the south. The watercourse now called Kings Creek was then known as the Trading Branch; and the bartering was done at some now unknown point along its banks.

Though trade brought white men early to the county, it did not foster settlement. The bitter, intolerant attitudes then prevalent in religious matters motivated the first settlements, which were laid down along the Annemessex and Manokin rivers in 1662. And this is how they came into being.

Certain Quaker families of Accomack, knowing of Lord Baltimore's tolerant policy in matters of religion, and following passage of The Virginia Law of 1660 evicting Quakers, promptly petitioned the Maryland authorities for permission to remove into that province. On November 6, 1661, Governor Philip Calvert issued a proclamation, which was approved by Cecil, Lord Baltimore, granting the Virginia Quakers authority to take up lands and naming Randall Revell and John Elzey commissioners to issue patents and to administer oaths of loyalty. It appears that these men were Virginians, leaders of the migrating Quakers.

By 1662 settlements were definitely laid down, though it is very probable that settlers actually had arrived in 1661 or even in 1660 following the Virginia anti-Quaker law. In Maryland archives the first direct reference to these mother settlements is dated April 9, 1662, and concerns a matter of Indian displeasure, fomented by traders, over the arrival of whites who intended permanently to dwell in the land until then unsettled.⁶ On May 2, 1662, there is a statement by Randall Revell that "fifty tithable persons" were settled at Manokin and Annemessex.

Thus the Maryland region which was to become Somerset County received its first settlers because the colony offered sanctuary to exiled Quakers. Somerset's first families were Quaker in faith.

Records attest that patents were issued to these persons in 1662: George Mitchell, (Mitchell's Choice); Thomas Manning, (Manning's Resolution); John Vantrack, (Hackland); William Cole, (Colebrook); William Thorne, (Thorn-ton); William Bozeman, (More and Case it). Of these, the earliest is that of Mitchell, March 2.⁷

By proclamation of Cecil, Lord Baltimore, dated August 22, 1666, Somerset County came into being. The natal proclamation named the new county "in honor of our dear sister, Lady Mary Somerset." It stated that the purpose for establishment was twofold: "for the ease and benefit of the people of this our province and the speedy and more exact Administration of Justice." Eight men were designated justices of the peace, "Commissioners jointly and severally to keep the peace": Stephen Horsey; William Stevens; William Thorne; James Jones; John Winder; Henry Boston; George Johnson; John White. Boundaries were laid down thusly: "bounded south with a line from Watkins Point (being the north point of the bay into which the River Wighco formerly called Wighcocomoco afterwards Pocomoke and Wighcocomo again doth fall exclusively) to the Ocean on the east; Nanticoke River on the North and the Sound of Chesapeake Bay on the West."

Thus came into being Somerset County. The sincerity of Maryland's Toleration Act of 1649 was affirmed. And the Baltimores secured a recognizable claim to their southern marshes in that the land was occupied, dwelt in, and organized.

Population had encouragingly increased by 1666. In this matter it is interesting to note the distribution of the eight commissioners named in the proclamation which erected the political organization. Clayton Torrence records:

The number of commissioners named is marked evidence of the solid progress which the settlement was making. Population had increased and with it the demands in legal affairs. The new settlers were evidently taking up lands in parts of the area beyond the limits of the original settlements at Annemessex and Manokin. The commission was increased from three to eight members, with a more general distribution of the magistrates throughout the areas to meet the needs of the now widely distributed population. Horsey, Johnson and Boston were Annemessex men; Thorne was north of Manokin River; Stevens and White were on Pocomoke River, well inland from its mouth; Winder and Jones were on the Wicomico River well in the northern part of the settled area.⁸

Another matter of interest at this moment in Somerset history is that of church affiliations as represented among the eight commissioners. Of the Quaker faith were Johnson, Boston and Jones. Horsey, who held first rank among the commissioners, was not at any time identifiable with the Quakers, but seems to have been rather independently minded, even radical, in matters of religion. Thorne, Stevens, and Winder were Church of England men. White, later numbered with the Presbyterians along the Pocomoke, possibly was at first Church of England. The case of William Stevens is noteworthy. From this time on he steadily grew in stature in Somerset affairs. Though a Church of England affiliate at the time of the proclamation, he was liberal and tolerant. And it was he who was mostly responsible for bringing the Presbyterian Church into Somerset. More, too. Possibly he was the prime mover in the visit of the great Quaker, George Fox, to Somerset.

Of the commissioners Torrence further writes in conclusion: "The com-

mission . . . was a body of vigorous, able men, well representative of the spirit of the settlement and well qualified to direct the rapidly developing interests of the area."

So worthy is the record of Stevens in Somerset annals, he deserves more than passing notice. His plantation was named Rehobeth: "For now the Lord hath made room for us and we shall be fruitful in the land." It was he who, applying to the Presbytery of Laggan, North Ireland, for a pastor, brought Francis Makemie to the county. Though himself Church of England, he loyally backed the Catholic Baltimores in good times and bad; befriended the Quakers; installed the Presbyterians; and so exemplified the noblest qualities of toleration and of citizenship. The Indians also benefited by his excellence. He was chiefly responsible for keeping the Indian peace in his home county and was often appointed by the governor to settle disputes which frequently arose between native and newcomer. So highly thought of was his diplomacy in this field that he was once given the grave burden of saving the province from the consequences of its rash massacre of the Susquehannocks on the Western Shore. His grave is preserved. Its epitaph reads:

Here lyeth the Body of William Stevens, Esq., who departed this Life the 23 of December 1687 aged 57 years. He was 20 years Judge of this County Court, one of His Lordship's Council, and one of ye Deputy Lieutenants of the Province of Maryland Vivit Post Funera Virtus.⁹

Squabbles with the Indians did indeed vex Somerset settlers, but these were slight in comparison with those which occurred in other colonies. No bloody massacres struck upon the settlements. Defense, nevertheless, was not neglected, but received due and foresighted consideration. In 1665 authority in the form of a commission was granted to "Captain William Thorne to Command all the Forces (as Captain) on the Eastern Shore of this province from Wiccocomico that joins upon Manny to that part of Pocomoke on the said Eastern Shore that is or shall be inhabited, within this said province of Maryland, them to muster, exercise, &c."¹⁰

In Somerset as elsewhere among Britain's New World colonies, every man of property, however slight, was required to be also a defender of his community and, if need be, of his colony. He was required to report on designated days to a named place for drill (exercise) in arms. Such days were known as muster days. From these small bodies of military nature developed in time the colonial militia companies and regiments, and later the National Guard units still in being. Each militiaman furnished his own weapon. Those wealthy enough to own horses formed cavalry, sometimes called dragoon units. And in some instances a well-to-do landowner might even equip a military unit from his own funds. However mustered, the spirit which naturally grew among men standing, musket in hand, "between his loved home and the war's desolation" marked a strongly limned characteristic of the evolving American nature. And in Somerset this too was increasingly evident.

The organization of militia outfits in early times is interesting. In 1694 it was ordained that for each county three field officers were to be named, a colonel, a lieutenant-colonel, and a major. These had authority to appoint officers to serve under them and to enlist troops as seemed necessary. A troop was to have a captain; a lieutenant; a cornet; a quartermaster; a clerk; three corporals; a trumpeter; and 36 privates. Besides captain, lieutenant, and clerk, a company of

infantry had an ensign, three sergeants, four corporals, two drummers, and 72 privates. Colors designated for Somerset militia units were the Jack, or union flag.¹¹

Although for the most part peaceful, Somerset has at times been disturbed by the rolling thunder of battle. The first of these clashes had to do with the dispute between the Maryland proprietors and the Virginians over the trading activities of William Claiborne on Kent Island far up the Bay. In 1635 matters came to a head and a pitched battle was fought on the waters of Pocomoke Sound. In retaliation for seizure by Maryland of his pinnace and in anger at the audacity of the trading activities of Marylanders among the Somerset Indians, whose commerce he deemed his own, Claiborne dispatched the shallop *Cockatrice* to Pocomoke Sound with orders to capture the two Maryland pinnaces, *St. Helen* and *St. Margaret*, reported as being there. The battle which resulted was a defeat for Claiborne and one more victorious advance for Baltimore in securing his Maryland domain.

Somerset played a modest rôle in the Revolution.

Among its people were many who, for one reason or another, remained loyal to England and so were named Tories. Some of the Tories of the rougher elements harrassed and plundered the river settlements. Of these Ben Allen is the best remembered. As one writer describes him, he was "big as an ox, strong as a mule, and mean as the devil."¹² But the greatest and most trying vexations came not from Allen, but from one Joseph Whaland, the most famous of the Picaroons.

Picaroon comes from a Spanish word meaning rogue. From their deeds the Picaroons were truly rogues. Operating from bases safely hidden in the marshes, the Picaroons, in boats of varying size, sometimes in schooners, would sally forth to harry plantations and to pirate unwary patriot craft. It was in 1780 that Whaland became the Somerset bugaboo by reason of his depredations. So infamous and so hated did he become, his name was used to hush children in Somerset homes. By 1781 so tantalizing and destructive had become Whaland's buccaneering that Maryland began to take measures to efface him. But it was not until November 28, 1782, that he was brought to bay in Cager's (Kedge's) Straits, between Tangier Sound and Chesapeake Bay. Six Picaroon craft engaged five Maryland craft and scattered them. This armed clash may possibly mark the last blood shed in the War of the Revolution. Following it, Whaland made headquarters on Tangier Island, in Virginia waters just south of Smith Island; and from there he harried the lower Eastern Shore coasts and even raided Western Shore river settlements. Of the end of Whaland nothing is certainly known. Two accounts conflict. One has it that he was killed in a ship fight near Ocracoke, North Carolina. Another that after peace with Great Britain was effected, he hid in the Dorchester marshes, there going mad and terrifying the inhabitants with his unearthly ravings until death brought him merciful extinction.¹³

Of better fame and nobler deed in the War for American Independence was Major Alexander Roxburgh, who distinguished himself at the battle of Long Island where he held the Maryland Line to its grim mission of staying the British onslaught. The determined and sacrificial stand of the Marylanders assuredly saved Washington's army from being annihilated. The American struggle may well have ended with such a catastrophe. Therefore Somerset may take earned pride in the stamina of Roxburgh who played so large and generous a rôle in a moment of extreme peril. In 1794 Roxburgh was commissioned brigadier general of the militia companies for Somerset and Worcester counties. May he be remembered with gratitude among those who well served their country.

This period of history finds Somerset represented by two other notable men. One of these was Samuel Chase, signer of the Declaration of Independence and later Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. Chase was born in Somerset, although controversy still is heard as to exactly where he was born. The other was Luther Martin, Maryland's first Attorney General. Though not a native Marylander, Martin was a teacher in one of Somerset's ancient prides, Washington Academy. Nevertheless Somerset countians claim a portion of his fame as rightfully their own. A member of Maryland's delegation to the Constitutional Convention of 1782, Martin disagreed with the Constitution as written and did not sign it. Federalist in his politics, he often collided with Thomas Jefferson on issues. Jefferson, with his characteristic appreciation of a man's ability and worth regardless of his politics, dubbed Martin the "bulldog of Federalism." Today he is still remembered for his successful defense of Samuel Chase when that jurist was impeached in 1804 and for his defense of Aaron Burr against the charge of treason. He served a second time as Attorney General. In 1822 he quit the office. In that same year the Maryland legislature pensioned him.

In the first half of the nineteenth century, efforts were made to produce iron from the bog ore deposits of Pocomoke Swamp. But these failed, bringing disaster to promoters. A romantic tale has been woven into the fabric of this era by George Alfred Townsend¹⁴ in his novel *The Entailed Hat*. During the same period a go was had at railroad building. The support of the Maryland General Assembly was procured and roadbeds were actually surveyed and graded. The economic upsets of the time, known in history as panics, led the State to withdraw its aid; and nothing came of the venture. Today, however, remains of bridge construction for this railroad may still be seen near Allen along Passerdyke Creek, the boundary between Somerset and Wicomico counties, and certain roads, now in Wicomico County, follow the trace of the abandoned project.

During Civil War days along with the entire Eastern Shore, Somerset felt not the scourge of war. Sentiment was divided and bitter controversies raged; but little beyond the war of words occurred. A number of Somerset people were imprisoned in Fort McHenry, in Baltimore, because of their opposition to waging war on the Confederacy and their decided inclination to secede from the Union. Federal gunboats patrolled the Wicomico River and Federal troops, stationed in Salisbury, at times sallied forth to overawe Confederate sympathizers. But no blood was shed.

The declining profits from tobacco culture from the time of the Revolution had worked against the spread of slavery in Somerset as well as in all Maryland. In 1783 Maryland prohibited slave trading and in 1786 Luther Martin worked to limit or to abolish the trade by a clause in the new Constitution. Many families had freed slaves long ere the Civil War.

As in all slave-holding areas, the activities of Negroes were straitly limited, especially after the Nat Turner Rebellion in Virginia in the early 1830s. The work they could undertake was restricted. Their gatherings were few and such as were permitted were strictly supervised. Religious services, for example, could not be held except under the ministry of an ordained white minister. Banishment from Maryland was the penalty for conviction of violation of numerous restrictions.

The Underground Railroad was not unknown in Somerset. And the raids of slave pirates made inroads at times upon free and bound Negroes alike. The Abolitionists, too, made their cause felt. William Lloyd Garrison was undoubtedly

the best known Abolitionist among Somerset people. This was due mostly to the fact that just before launching his famous paper, *The Liberator*, he actively preached his convictions from Baltimore.

In 1867 Somerset suffered its last loss of territory. This happened when a new county was created from lands formerly within the bounds of Somerset and its neighbor, Worcester County. The cause of this important event was the growing importance of Salisbury. Until the Civil War Salisbury was but a small village at the head of navigation of Wicomico River. But with increasing business and economic activity, Salisbury found itself in a bedeviling predicament. The line between Worcester and Somerset counties ran squarely through the town, being traced by what then was called the Dividing Street. In matters of law the inhabitants, depending on which side of the street they lived, looked either to Snow Hill, Worcester's county seat, or to Princess Anne, the seat of administration for Somerset. The Maryland legislature solved the perplexing difficulty by erecting the new county in 1867. Though opposition to the creation of the county was rife in Somerset, once the division took effect it lost its vitality, and now it is remembered only as a part of the past.

The coming of the railroad was a forward stride in Somerset progress. Until then the steamboat was its chief link with Baltimore and the outer world. When the rails became an accomplished fact, the decline of the river steamers set in. They finally vanished into memory in the era between the two World Wars. Today many young Somerset folks have never seen a steamer on the Wicomico River and must gather what information they may from the reminiscences of their elders. All too soon even these reminiscences will fade as of yore the departing steamer's smoke faded across the marshes and the rumble of its deep-toned whistle whispered away into silence.

The railroad cannot be entirely blamed for the routing of the steamboats. Automobiles and trucks perhaps played an even greater part. Their coming brought hard-surfaced highways, making communication and transportation easier and more rapid. And these latter have the just honor of doing a great deal to integrate Somerset not only with Maryland but also with the nation. The main artery of travel through Somerset is United States Highway 13, a link in the coastal road system from New England to Florida. All year round, day and night, along this fine highway whirl passenger cars from all states of the union and rumble huge trucks carrying produce to feed the great cities.

Because of this sort of trade and communication, Somerset towns have profited. Yet they never will become more than towns; for the large centers are too conveniently reached ever to permit large growth. Somerset towns are, in the economic picture, collecting and distributing points for the products of the county and for those purchased abroad. But the highway has brought profit and improvement. It has opened to farmers and watermen markets which otherwise they could not have approached except at prohibitive cost. And in the longer view this is of vital importance. The county is a closer knit entity within itself and a more contributing section of its mother state.

It has earlier been remarked that the coming of better means of transportation and of improved roads has resulted in stitching Somerset into a better integrated unit, and that one patent manifestation of this wholesome process was seen in the consolidation of schools. Within the memory of many still living people, many communities had respectively their own schools, both elementary and high. Small though such schools were, they provided a center for neighborhood activities and

a rallying point for neighborhood loyalty and pride. In the American tradition of the little red schoolhouse, they performed a useful and generous service. However, the increasingly vital need of Somerset youth for broad educational foundations decreed that consolidation must take place. Now there are in the county four white high schools, at Crisfield, Marion, Princess Anne, and Deal Island. Into these feed bus lines from the hinterlands bringing each school day hundreds of children. The steadily increasing number of youth each year graduated from the high schools is an encouraging factor in previewing Somerset's future. This is highly emphasized when a study of the pertinent data reveals that each year there is an increase in the number of young people who go on to complete high school. The installation of a twelve-year system to replace the old eleven-year system is just now being completed; and this will provide an educational opportunity which cannot but be helpful. The county has a program for building new school plants to house the swelling school population, and for equipping them for effective instruction.

For its colored citizens Somerset provides a complete school system which guarantees them the opportunity to prepare for useful and profitable lives. The increases in graduates from the colored high schools is a gratifying element in the county's portrait. At Princess Anne is the Maryland State College, a Negro college, which, under the auspices of the University of Maryland, is expanding its facilities as well as its curriculum. Until recently this educational institution was known as Princess Anne College.

From early days Somerset has been mindful of the value of education. Washington High School, in Princess Anne, has a proud and ancient history which pointedly illustrates this fact.

This school's actual history begins in 1767 when a group of local gentry instituted an academy for the instruction of their sons, whom they could not afford to send abroad for schooling. It passed from memory where the first building stood; but it is known that it was near Westover and was then named the Academy on Back Creek, a small stream just north of that village. In 1779 it was enlarged and incorporated by the State of Maryland under the name of Washington Academy. In 1797 its building was burned; and in 1802 it re-opened in a larger brick structure which was placed nearer Princess Anne. Eighteen forty-three witnessed the removal of the Academy to Princess Anne itself, where it was united with Franklin School; and 1892 saw the erection of a brick building, opened for students the following year, the first to become in time known as Washington High School. The present high school building was occupied in 1939. Present day pupils and teachers alike take pride in their school's history. Remembering that such distinguished men as Luther Martin once taught on its faculty or attended its classes, they sing their pride in this stanza of their *Alma Mater*:

School of bright and ancient honor,
Proud we are of thee.
May we each make contribution
To thy royalty.

Along with its schools, Somerset's churches have played important rôles in the county's life. Because the waterways were the easiest routes of travel in earliest days, the oldest churches are to be found at suitable locations along their banks.

The best known of these is Manokin Presbyterian Church in Princess Anne.

Presbyterian meetings have been held on or near the spot since 1672. The simple but dignified main part of the present building was erected in 1765. Years have brought changes and alterations, such as adding a tower in 1888 and changing the entrance from the south side to the front. But such changes have not destroyed the eighteenth century dignity of its architecture. Rather they have enhanced it, so that now the old structure is one of Somerset's loved links with the past. Serenely perched upon its little rise of ground and surrounded by the graves of generations of Princess Anne people, it reminds all that here dwells a people not unmindful of spiritual values.

At Rehobeth, between Westover and Marion, are the ruins of Coventry Parish Church, originally built about 1697.

Not far distant is Rehobeth Presbyterian Church. This small brick building holds a peculiar nook in Presbyterian memories and affections. This is because it was one of the places of worship built by Francis Makemie, who established the faith in Maryland; and because it has been used since its erection in 1705 exclusively for Presbyterian services, thus making it the oldest continuously used Presbyterian Church in the United States. Makemie, it should be noted in passing, was the minister who came to the New World in answer to the petition of William Stevens to the Presbytery of Laggan for a pastor for Somerset people of Presbyterian faith.

In Princess Anne is St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. The parent parish church stood farther down the Manokin River near Almodington. This church, though it has been altered, still retains the old Flemish-bond walls and a part of the gallery of the original building, which was built in 1770.

Not to be neglected is the church on Deal Island which grateful people built for the Parson of the Islands, Joshua Thomas. Until 1850, Thomas conducted services at a camp-meeting ground. That year brought a terrible storm of both wind and rain which razed the ground and greatly disheartened the congregation. But the courageous and determined preacher rallied flagging spirits; and the church was the result of his efforts. Thomas lies buried beside his beloved house of worship. On his plain tomb are these words:

Come all my friends as you pass by,
Behold the place where I do lie,
Once as you are, so was I,
Remember, you are born to die.

A land so long occupied is certain to have also old houses. Somerset is no exception. Among the best known of these old places is Beverly of Somerset, (so called to avoid confusing it with Beverly of Worcester). Completed in 1796, it is a typical great house of its period—Georgian in style, with a broad central hallway and a poised stairway. The place figures in a scheme to spirit Napoleon from his exile; and this legend persists to this day among Somerset people.

Beckford, in Princess Anne, was built in 1776 on land patented in 1679. Of all Somerset's great houses, Beckford is the most well preserved. Mantles, fireplaces, woodwork, tastefully figured ceilings, hinges and locks, furniture, and many other old appointments of the manor yet remain. To be seen there is a device used for measuring slaves on the auction block. One who loves old houses and old furnishings can at Beckford find a lingering reality of the mode of graceful living which has all but vanished away.

In Princess Anne is, also, Teackle Mansion, two hundred feet long, built in

three sections, dating from 1801, and prominently figuring in *The Entailed Hat*, George Alfred Townsend's novel of slave pirates. This old seat wears a mood of mystery which will not die. Even today there persist stories of hidden and secret tunnels which give access to the nearby river. These apparently never existed except in folk imagination. The builder of Teackle Mansion, however, Littleton Dennis Teackle, does furnish a bit of the stuff from which legends are fabricated.



Manokin Presbyterian Church, Erected 1765 in Princess Anne

His banking business failed and he was reduced to want and destitution. It is known that his holdings were sold by the United States Marshall; but who bought them and under what terms is not altogether known. As one sees the sprawling mass of the Mansion from the town's court house square, he is definitely impressed by a spirit of brooding mystery such as is imparted by the night wind's dallying among dried leaves.

Beyond Princess Anne and off the road to Deal Island is Almodington, which is said to have been built by Arnold Elzey, who died in 1733. The father of this Elzey was John who was one of the commissioners named by Lord Baltimore to establish the first Somerset settlements. Born here was General Arnold Elzey, graduate of West Point, veteran of the Seminole and Mexican Wars, and one of Lee's trusted commanders in the Civil War. In 1918 the woodwork of Almodington's living room was removed to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City, to become a part of that institution's American Wing.

Another Somerset seat which has attained to a degree of prominence through the works of its native born is Kingston Hall in south central Somerset near Kingston. It was probably built before 1750, by Robert King III. A descendant, Thomas King Carroll, was a governor of Maryland and lived here amid numerous

servants and in great elegance. But the most famous of Kingston Hall's people is Anna Ella Carroll, whose services to the Union during the Civil War are just becoming generally known. She is now credited with instigating much of the strategy which enabled the Federal armies to win and to secure the West and eventually to crush the rebellion. Indeed she has been called "President Lincoln's Confederate" and the "great unrecognized member of Lincoln's cabinet."

Other old places could be paraded; for there are many such in this county. But space does not permit the relation of the numerous facts required to do them justice. However, let East Glenn and Clifton be remembered. And the Washington Hotel in Princess Anne, also. This last stands flush with sidewalk, a large frame structure with great chimneys, an outside dinner bell, quaint stairways, and an air of respectability which cannot be missed. It has served as a hotel since 1744.

The names given the old houses are more than matched by the names given places and communities throughout the county. Some of these defy interpretation and most suggest legends or peculiar happenings which once occurred there.

East of the county seat is a region called Perryhawkin, which, though local people still argue about it, is thought to have evolved from the name of one Perry Hawkins. The little settlement of Venton is still called by its old name on the State Road Commission's direction signs: Habnab. The name is that of an early-day land grant. Geanquakin, pronounced Jinngawkin, defies all attempts to discover meaning. Some say it is of Indian origin. Others stoutly maintain it enshrines the memory of some almost phantomly remembered girl. Pigeon Roost is another quaint place name. Then there are Champ and Chance; Dames Quarter; Oriole; Potato Neck (Fairmount); Palmetto and Monie; Marumsko; Shelltown; Rumbly; Wenona; and Birdtown.

The waterways and the points have intriguing names, too. In old days a small cove or haven was sometimes called a hole. Such usage gave Ape's Hole its name. Then there are Flatland Cove and Shirtpond Cove; Old House Cove and Crane Cove and Moons Bay. Of the points which jut and thrust out into the waters there are Racoon, Cormon, Drum, Prickly, Hazard, Persimmon, and Flatcap. And solitary among these good British names is St. Pierre. Could it be learned, the story of this place name might reveal interesting local history.

Somerset has even its geographical believe-it-or-not. To go to West Post Office, you must drive east.

Like a pulsing artery, through the massed statistics and paraded facts which constitute any general account of any region runs folklore. The sayings and songs and legends which grow up with a region bring one very close to the native nature of both the place and its people. Being an old land, Somerset has its store of these, many of them being held in common with other counties of the lower Eastern Shore.

Recently this was related. A man had a young daughter who was very ill. Upon hearing of the child's illness, an old colored woman told the gentleman: "Jest you fill 'er up with ile (oil) and give 'er plenty of mule water to drink and she'll come around alright." The man wanted to know what "mule water" was. "Chile," said the old darkey, "jest you fill up a bucket with water and let a flop-eared old mule drink out of it and you has mule water." The child recovered its health, but not because of this dark and mysterious remedy.

In *Maryland, A Guide To The Old Line State*, one reads: "Probably the richest body of lore and language that is peculiarly Maryland's has sprung from the Eastern Shore, and is still current there."¹⁵ This is evident in the everyday

talk of Somerset people. For example, a fisherman might be heard to say, "I didn't catch neither fish the whole time I was out." "If you catch oysters, sing; if fish, be still," is another.

· Wind from the North—fishing's lost.
 Wind from the East, fishing's least.
 Wind from the South blows bait from fishes' mouth.
 Wind from the West—fishing's best.

A gar is a long, slender fish, so meatless that it reminds one of a rubber band. So useless is it for food purposes that it has given birth to an expression designed to highlight extreme thinness or even poverty: "As poor as gar broth." A person given to little self-control and subject to temper's tantrums is sometimes called a "fly-up-the-creek." "Yes indeedy" is often heard. And the quaint "mungstuall" has not entirely vanished. This term is a hashing of the words "among you all" and is variously used, as "What are you doing mungstuall?" "As independent as a hog on ice" and "Lay low and chew pokeroot" are other local expressions. And once in a while are still heard such expressive descriptions of heavy rainfall as "Toad-strangler," "Gully-washer," and "Goose-drownder." Very common is the pronunciation of the word "yesterday as yesturday."

All these recitations paint a picture of Somerset County on Maryland's Eastern Shore. It is well nigh impossible to gather into the scope of one small paper the entire wealth of history, geography, economic activity, folklore, and all the other myriad matters which rightfully ought to be considered. It is possible only to catch a bit here and a bit there, as one garners from the sea shore only the few shells which capture his fancy.

Like all old established regions, Somerset has a wealth of background. And like all places where is felt the spur and the urge of modern-day life, it has a generous and promiscuous future. That which today comprises the vital pulse of Somerset's life will tomorrow become a part of Somerset's past. The generations come and go. New methods improve upon the old. New ideas emerge from old ideas. And progress continues always adding to the store of the past. But the land remains and the people who dwell therein remain to work its soil and fish its water. The cut of their clothes may change. The idiom of their speech may alter. The tools they employ may improve. But their roots still reach back into their past and draw from it the sustenance which colors and determines their basic nature and character.

One's way of life and way of thinking are reflections of the land where he is cradled. The breath of it is in his mouth; and his heart beats to its rhythm. Its speech is as honey on his tongue, as music to his ears. It is a part of him; and it makes him a part of it. He remembers it lovingly when he is distant gone. It makes him to lift up his head with pride. It enriches the hours of his loneliness. It shapes him as its own; and by its intimate and peculiar marks is his identity made known. It lights his eyes with laughter. It fashions a song for his lips. The music of its winds, the singing of its birds, the swaying of its trees and of the crops of its fields, give him a versatile theme. His love of his native land is his guiding star. And the love of his land for him is his best possession.

NOTES, CHAPTER XLVII

1. University of Maryland, Agricultural Experiment Station, Department of Agricultural Economics, *Miscellaneous Publication No. 52* (College Park, Maryland,

December, 1946), pp. 40-41. All Agricultural statistics are based on this publication.

2. Hulbert Footner, *Rivers of the Eastern Shore*, p. 105.

3. Rev. Adam Wallace, *The Parson of the Islands* (Methodist Home Journal, Philadelphia, 1872), pp. 127-152.

4. Clayton Torrence, *Old Somerset on the Eastern Shore of Maryland* (Richmond, Virginia, Whittet & Shepperson, 1935), Appendix X (a), pp. 434-464.

5. *Ibid.*, p. 7.

6. *Ibid.*, p. 16.

7. *Ibid.*, Appendix X (d), pp. 469-473.

8. *Ibid.*, p. 60.

9. *Ibid.*, p. 75.

10. *Ibid.*, p. 60.

11. *Ibid.*, Appendix, IV, p. 396.

12. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 294.

13. Footner, *op. cit.*, pp. 48-67.

14. Townsend wrote under the pen-name "Gath."

15. See Raymond B. Clark, Jr., "Washington Academy, Somerset County, Maryland," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XLIV, No. 3 (September, 1949), pp. 200-210.

16. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 4 *et seq.*

CHAPTER XLVIII

Dorchester County

*By Virginia Webb**

With its broad waters and secure harbors lying just across the Chesapeake Bay from Lord Baltimore's first settlement, it is natural that the section which now makes up Dorchester County should have been settled early in Maryland's history. It was established as a separate county—the fourth on the Eastern Shore, and the ninth in Maryland—in 1669,¹ although ten years prior to that time, settlers within the present limits of the county were having grants of land surveyed here and rent rolls showed a population of more than one hundred persons.²

The early grants, for the most part, were made on the banks of tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay and its creeks. These tributaries served as the principal means of transportation, the first towns were located on their waterways, the early churches were so situated to permit easy access, and the homes of colonists were built to overlook these waters and to provide their owners with facilities for travel and for the loading of ships. Dorchester, like other tidewater counties, grew inland from its water, and even today the only way to see the beauty of the Eastern Shore is from the vantage point of these waters.

Throughout the county's nearly three hundred years of history, its water ways have played a most important part in its development. Shipbuilding, seafood businesses, and the muskrat industry from its marshlands, have been economic consequences of its enormous water expanses and many of its ways of life have derived from its proximity to navigable waters. Only by invading enemies from the sea, has the county ever been attacked in war.

Named for Sir Edward Sackville, fourth Earl of Dorset, a distinguished statesman during the reign of James I and Lord Chamberlain to his Queen,³ Dorchester today contains 618 square miles of territory, about one third of which is water. Originally the county was twice its present size, for not only did it lose a large part of its land when the controversy between Lord Baltimore and William Penn over the possession of Delaware was resolved in William Penn's favor in 1685,⁴ but it also was decreased in size when the larger part of what is now Caroline County was formed into a separate county in 1773. Dorchester itself was originally a part of Somerset County.⁵

Historically, Dorchester County was "summoned" into being by a writ issued by Governor Charles Calvert and his Council, on February 4, 1669,⁶ for

* Virginia Webb was born in Cambridge, Md., and is a ninth generation Dorchester Countian. She was educated at Hollins College, Hollins, Virginia and after being graduated from that institution was a member of the staff of the *Daily Banner* at Cambridge for approximately ten years, during which time she did considerable research in Dorchester County history.

on that date the Sheriff of the County, Raymond Stapleford, was directed to hold an election for delegates from the county to attend the General Assembly of the Province on the following 13th day of April, at the capital, St. Mary's. Richard Preston, who lived in Calvert County, but who was a landowner in Dorchester, was elected the county's first delegate and during the same session (1669) eight commissioners were appointed to govern the county, and Captain Edward Savage was named its Clerk and Keeper of Records.⁷

Dorchester had at that time a population of approximately 500 persons, and as early as 1659, Anthony LeCompte was having "Antonine" on Horne Bay surveyed and many other patents were granted, including those to Thomas Stone, Thomas Stillington, Stephen Gary, Francis Armstrong, John Gary, Peter Sharpe, John Felton, William Stevens, Thomas Powell, John Hudson and others.⁸ The writ to Raymond Stapleford, sheriff, indicated that some form of county government was already in existence when the county was instructed to send a delegate to the assembly in 1669,⁹ but since the writ is the only tangible evidence of the founding of the county, its date is used as the year of the county's founding.

At the time of the early settlements, there was an Indian population of two or three hundred along the banks of the Choptank River,¹⁰ and the Nanticoke Tribe which lived between the banks of the Pocomoke River and the southern bank of the Nanticoke River embraced, according to Captain John Smith's estimate, two to three thousand people.¹¹ Both tribes were considered friendly although several expeditions were undertaken against the Nanticokes by the colonists.¹²

In 1698 lands were assigned to the Nanticokes along the northern banks of the Nanticoke in the vicinity of Chicacone (now Chicone) Creek, but it proved inadequate and ten years later a commission was appointed to lay out 3,000 acres for their use on Broad Creek. They do not seem to have availed themselves of this new land and made complaints that the colonists were settling on their lands at Chicacone Creek.

In 1742 Panquas, Emperor of the Nanticokes, was accused of conspiring with Shawnee Indians for the massacre of settlers, and the commanding officer of the militia at Vienna, founded several years prior to this, was ordered to investigate and take firearms from the Indians and, if these firearms were not surrendered, to attack. Panquas was captured and taken to Annapolis for trial, where he denied the charges but was found guilty. His punishment is not disclosed in the records and shortly after that the Nanticokes asked and received permission to join the Six Nations. A few remained but by 1768 most had gone north. Before the remainder left, the State of Maryland allowed them as compensation for relinquishing their claims to lands formerly granted their tribe, the sum of \$666.75.¹³

The last authentic reference to the Nanticokes in their old haunts was made by one of Dorchester's most distinguished sons, William Vans Murray, who at the request of Thomas Jefferson, sent in a few ethnological notes and a vocabulary collected at Nanticoke Village. It is to this collection of notes that we owe our knowledge of the Nanticoke language.¹⁴

With the Choptanks, friendly relationships were maintained during the entire time the Calverts were in control at St. Mary's.¹⁵ Once assured of the friendship of these Indians, the proprietary officials made every effort to protect them from other savages (that might attack them) and the rulers of the Assateague and Nanticoke Indians were compelled to agree that if any of their

subjects killed a Choptank Indian, "it would be deemed as great an offense as killing an Englishman." The Choptanks claimed several times that the Nanticokes tried to persuade their tribesmen to join in a war against the colonists.¹⁶ Stories of Seneca Indians coming into the territory as spies, made the provincial authorities realize that something had to be done to protect colonists and friendly Indians, and Major Thomas Taylor was ordered to range with his troops for the discovery of such enemies and if necessary call upon Captain Henry Trippe for as many foot soldiers as he needed to protect the homes and crops of Dorchester County. No conflicts, however, occurred.¹⁷

As the colony grew, the Choptanks retreated and in 1664 they complained that "notwithstanding they never sold any land to the English, nor gave permission to seat any Lands on the Southside of the Choptank higher than William Stephen's Creek, yet the English daily Encroach upon them, etc.," and begged that land above William Stephen's Creek as high as Secretary Sewall's Creek be reserved and laid out for them. A strip of land, three miles wide in that area was thereby allotted them provided they paid the proprietor a yearly rental of six beaver skins. During the eighteenth century when Betty Caco was their Queen, many complaints were lodged by them and they were finally driven into Locust Neck by encroachments.¹⁸ By the end of the century only four Choptank Indians were left on the river which bears their name, and they were confined to the use of but eighty acres of land. They later sold this plot in consideration of annuities given them by the state.¹⁹

Dorchester, like many other counties on the Shore, was settled to a large extent by men—and women—who had previously emigrated to other settlements and were not unfamiliar with the rigors of colonial life. Many came from settlements in Southern Maryland, from Somerset and from the Virginia colonies. Later in its history, the Acadians sought refuge here after their expulsion from Nova Scotia in 1755. Agriculture was, of course, the principal industry and farmers raised wheat, corn, various fruits and vegetables, with tobacco as the principal crop. Many of the land grants were small; others, under the manorial system which was in operation until 1683, were for several thousand acres.

There were seven legally constituted manors in Dorchester—Coddshhead Manor to which an addition was granted in 1670; Darby Manor granted to Henry Sewall in 1663; Nanticoke Manor, 1664; Painter's Range, 1679; Phillipsburg Manor granted to Philip Calvert in 1670; Rehobeth granted in 1670 to Colonel Richard Lee of Virginia; and Warwick Fort Manor granted to Henry Hooper (the fourth generation of Hoopers in Dorchester), in 1740.²⁰ Each of these grants contained in excess of 2,000 acres.

The Assembly of 1669, the first in which Dorchester appeared as a separate entity, passed several laws affecting the county. One established Court Days on the first Tuesdays in September, November, January, March and June and ordered that commissioners who failed to attend were to be fined 100 pounds of tobacco, this sum to be applied to a fund for the erection of whipping posts, stocks and pillories.²¹

No record survives of where the first court met, although traditional sources place it at "Islington" on Brooks Creek of the Little Choptank River. Later, in 1673, it was moved to Harwood's Choice, on the easterly branch of Fishing Creek, owned by William Worgen, where it was held until 1687 when the first Court House was built in Cambridge. This first court house stood near the site of the present Court House and was built by Captain Andrew Dawson

at a cost of 26,000 pounds of tobacco (approximately \$1,300). It was 40 feet long by 22 feet wide and was two-storied. In 1770 it was taken down and sold and a second building, larger and of brick, was built. This stood until it was destroyed by fire in 1851. During that fire records of the Clerk's Office were saved but those in the office of the Register of Wills were burned.²²

Until the Assembly passed, in 1683, a bill providing for the laying out of towns in the county, life in Dorchester was entirely rural. The friendliness of Indians precluded the necessity for towns as a protection and the facility of water transportation made it unnecessary that towns be erected as meeting places for the transaction of business. The 1683 bill provided that "after the last day of August, 1685, towns, ports, and places hereafter mentioned shall be the ports and places for loading and unloading goods and selling goods." Tobacco was to be brought to two ports, one on Morgan's Creek near the head of Fishing Creek in the Little Choptank and "on Traverse, his land," and another on the west side of the northwest branch of Transquaking River at or near the fork. A commission was appointed to purchase the land and lay out building lots and rules were set up for the purchase of these lots, but the towns did not develop into ports of interest or of much trade.²³

Cambridge, the county seat, was established and named in 1686 under an act passed in 1684 for the location of a town on Daniel Jones' Plantation. The town itself was laid out in 1687. Other towns then in existence were Islington on Brooks Creek of the Little Choptank, one on Hungar River called Bristoll, Dorset and Yarmouth.²⁴

From early records it appears that there was a legal controversy over the land on which Cambridge was established and a commission was appointed in 1730 by Charles, Lord Baltimore, to inquire into this controversy which hung on whether the town was built on Daniel Jones' Plantation as the Act of 1684 had specified, or whether it was built on land purchased by John Kirk from the Indians in 1702. The findings of this commission were that Daniel Jones, of Talbot County, sold to Kirk part of the land which formerly belonged to one Richard Hughes and that Jones had purchased from Edward Lloyd, attorney for Hughes, in 1668. A deed from Ababsco, King of the Choptank Indians, was presented as evidence that Kirk had purchased Indian lands in 1684. Included in the report of the commission was a copy of a document wherein a jury of townsmen, drawn to consider the value of certain lands, found the right and property of the lands belonged to John Kirk and awarded him damages of 15,000 pounds of tobacco. Other sources state that Kirk, in 1702, bought from Winacaco, King of the Indians, lands included in and adjacent to Cambridge for the sum of 42 match coats.²⁵

Regardless of how he came into possession of the land, John Kirk was the founder of Cambridge, and his home "The Point" was the first house built there. It stood on the banks of Cambridge Creek for more than two hundred years, but was torn down a number of years ago after expansion of commercial interests along the harbor lessened the residential value of the property, and after its panelling had been sold and only the shell of a house remained. It was built in 1709, and until 1719 was the only house in that area. As early as 1719 vessels from Liverpool and London were calling at Cambridge to discharge and take on cargoes, for after the restoration of the Calverts in 1715, the town began to grow slowly.

Vienna was founded in 1700 and included 15 acres, two of which were laid off for a burying ground. This burying ground is still in use although the

Chapel of Ease which stood there in 1709 has been replaced by a church in the center of town. Originally Vienna was known as "Emperor's Landing" in honor of the Nanticoke Emperor, and one explanation of its present name is that it was derived from the first two syllables of the name of Indian Chief Vinnacokasimmon, with an "e" inserted before the consonants. It was a thriving place in 1776 and was made a customs district in 1768.²⁶

Church Creek is one of the oldest villages, although there is no record of a sale of lots prior to 1700. It was first named Dorchester, and later White Haven.²⁷ Several old homes are of interest, and, in front of one of its churches, still stands "The Treaty Oak" under which white settlers are said to have made a treaty with the Indians.

In the meantime other sections of the county were becoming more populous and even before a county seat was established, an act was passed in 1671 to establish ferries over the Choptank and Nanticoke rivers to make travel possible up and down the Shore.²⁸ In the same year a poll tax showed that 263 persons in the county were taxed,²⁹ and two years later the number of taxable persons had increased to 355.³⁰

The Protestant Crusade under William and Mary, and the Church Act of 1692 making the Church of England the established church in the colony, were not without their effects in Dorchester. From the Church Act we know that the county was divided into two parishes, Great Choptank and Dorchester, and that there was already a church in Dorchester Parish, Old Trinity, near Church Creek, which is reputedly one of the four oldest brick churches in the United States. The age of the original building of Christ Episcopal Church in Cambridge is established by an act giving the parish permission to use the Court House for services until the completion of the church building. This act, too, was passed in 1692.

At the time of the Revolution there were six Episcopal churches in the county. The oldest, Old Trinity, stands on the banks of Church Creek, near the village of that name. Originally cruciform in shape, the church which was built prior to 1692, and some sources say prior to 1665, has been through critical periods during which it has fallen into disuse, but it has always been restored. It has lost one wing of its cruciform shape, its high-backed pews and its choir gallery have gone, but its walls and floors have been preserved intact. Both because of its architectural beauty and its rich historic associations, it has become the most venerated spot in Dorchester County.

Old Trinity's list of rectors has been preserved since 1697, and its register dates back to 1742. Tradition says that bricks for the church were brought from England, but while cargo lists record brickmolds being brought to this country there is no record of bricks ever having been brought. As early as 1649 a brickmaker, Cornelius Canaday, made an agreement to make and deliver to a Mr. Thomas Cornwallis twenty-eight thousand bricks within two years.³¹ A large hollow in the old Churchyard leads many to the belief that it was from this clay soil that bricks for the church were made. The church was last restored in 1914, after a period of silence, and at the same time an association, non-sectarian in membership, was formed to perpetuate the church and supervise an endowment fund for its permanent care. Interest in the church increased under the rectorship of the late Rt. Rev. William McClelland, who served as its beloved rector until his election and consecration as Bishop of the Diocese of Easton. Services are held at Old Trinity regularly.

In Old Trinity's churchyard lie many of the distinguished men and women

of Dorchester as well as the humble miller whose grave is marked only with millstones. Governor Thomas King Carroll, his daughter, Anna Ella Carroll, and his son, Dr. Thomas King Carroll, are buried in the Carroll plot. Colonel John Jones, other Revolutionary heroes, and heroes of later wars have found a last resting place here and its monuments recall the names of many who have had a part in making Dorchester history.

One of the churches of which Queen Anne was patron, Old Trinity has retained one communion cup of its original service presented by Her Majesty, and, until its destruction by fire several years ago, an altar cushion which leading authorities had pronounced to be a part of the Queen's coronation cushion.

Although the Calverts were members of the Roman Catholic faith, there apparently were few Roman Catholics among the earliest settlers of Dorchester, and these attended divine services conducted in private homes by a Jesuit priest from St. Inigoes, or attended service at St. Inigoes, making the trip across the bay by boat. In 1706 the sheriff was required to enumerate the Roman Catholics in each county, and in that year 79 were listed in Dorchester. The first Roman Catholic Church in the county was built at Meekins' Neck in 1764.³²

In 1790 Dorchester had a population of 15,875 and was the largest county, numerically, on the Eastern Shore which had a total of 107,639 inhabitants, slightly in excess of one-third of all of Maryland's population. Of Dorchester's population, one-third, 5,337, were slaves and there were 652 heads of families listed.³³

The county now had been in existence well over a hundred years, and its characteristics had become established. It had fought through one war, and was to see at even closer range a second war within a few years. Many of its sons, and one of its daughters, had distinguished themselves on the field of battle or at the counsel table. Robert Goldsborough, a physician who was born at Horne's Point, Dorchester County, in 1733, was prominent in ante-Revolutionary movements and was a delegate to the First Continental Congress, 1774-75. He was a member of the Council of Safety and of the Convention of the Province of Maryland, August 14, 1776 called to frame a Constitution for the State.³⁴ John Henry, later Governor of Maryland, was elected a delegate to the Constitutional Congress in 1777, served until 1781, and again in a later term from 1784 until 1787 when he was appointed a member of the committee to prepare an ordinance for the Northwest Territory. He was the first United States Senator elected from Maryland, his election having preceded by one day that of his colleague, Charles Carroll of Carrollton. He resigned from his second term as Senator to accept the Governorship of Maryland³⁵—the first of six governors whom Dorchester has given to the state.

Governor Henry's home, Weston, near Vienna, was raided by the British in 1780. The next year in October, 1781, a British gun-boat sailed up the Nanticoke again and threw a shot into the town of Vienna. Two British barges with crews of thirty men attacked the town and one of the Dorchester militiamen, Levin Dorsey, was killed by the British in one of the attacks. He was Dorchester's only war casualty within the confines of the county.³⁶

In the lower part of Dorchester, a force of British led by Tories, went by boat to the home of Captain Henry Lake of the Dorchester County Militia for the purpose of arresting him and destroying his property. Captain Lake's daughter, Lovey, was so incensed at their treatment of her father and herself that she attempted to fight off the soldiers, and was pushed into a back room of the house. The house itself was set afire, but Lovey succeeded in putting

out the fire and escaped from a back window. Running across fields, she found some of her father's company who returned to their captain's rescue and drove off the British party.³⁷

Robert Morris, "the financier of the Revolution" probably knew Cambridge well, as his father, Robert Morris, Sr., managed the store of John Caile in Cambridge. Caile was Clerk of the Dorchester County Court and a ledger, kept by



The Haunted House, Near Cambridge

Robert Morris while managing the store, came into his possession and was later used by Caile in the Clerk's office, where it is preserved. The ledger records an account with Mr. Robert Greenway of Philadelphia for "Robert's schooling, books, etc."³⁸

Dorchester countians saw service with the Maryland Line and other regiments of the Continental Army and served with militia companies. After the preparation of a document called "An Association of the Freemen of Maryland," July 26, 1775, military companies were quickly organized and in Dorchester they took such names as "Friends of America," "The Plymouth Greens," "The Bucks Company," "The Transquaking Company," "The Cambridge Blues" and the "New Market Blues."³⁹ In addition to the Council of Safety appointed by the Provincial Convention, a Committee of Observation was appointed in each county and in Dorchester the committee was made up of 16 members.⁴⁰ The first militia company in Dorchester, "The Bucks Company," was organized on November 30, 1775 and it and the others formed in 1776 were divided into two battalions.⁴¹ Colonel Henry Hooper had previously been named brigadier general of the military forces of the lower Eastern Shore district and in 1776 he distributed these forces to protect from the plundering invaders of Lord Dunmore's fleet, the inhabitants who lived along the bay and its tributaries.⁴² Cambridge was headquarters for military operations on the Shore.⁴³

When the province opened recruiting offices in the counties to raise an

additional battalion, the Sixth Independent Company, later a part of the Maryland Line, was made up entirely of Dorchester County volunteers. It served with the Continental Army at the Battle of Long Island, and later in 1780, when the seat of war was transferred to the southern colonies, in South Carolina. In the battles of Camden and Catawba, the Maryland Line lost "six hundred and ninety-seven of the rank and file, and eighty non-commissioned officers."⁴⁴ In the "Flying Camp," volunteers requested by the Continental Congress on June 3, 1776 from the already organized militia, ninety-six men and four officers are listed from Dorchester.⁴⁵ Throughout the war years, of course, commissions were issued to more volunteers and militiamen in the county as frequent drafts were made to fill the ranks of Dorchester companies fighting in the Continental Army.⁴⁶

Not all the residents of Dorchester, however, were on the side of the Revolutionists. Loyalists here claimed that they could raise 500 or more men for the King's Regiments but the British did not take advantage of this possibility.⁴⁷ Several acts of disloyalty are recorded and records exist of courts martial appointed to try several individuals but no record of such trials have been found.⁴⁸ The two most serious insurrections on the Shore were in the summer of 1776. In the first of those threatened insurrections, militia from Dorchester, with companies from Kent and Queen Anne's, were ordered to the southern Eastern Shore counties for a period of two months to assist in preventing depredations by Lord Dunmore's invading forces on the Eastern Shore of Virginia.⁴⁹

In the closing year of the war, Dorchester, well supplied with grain and livestock, made many sacrifices to help feed the Continental Army, and to provide and sail vessels to transport General Washington's Army to Virginia for the final victorious battle at Yorktown.⁵⁰

After the war came the critical years of forming a new government for the thirteen provinces, and in these deliberations John Henry, Dr. Robert Goldsborough, Charles Goldsborough, Congressman and later Governor, and William Vans Murray took a prominent part. Murray, elected to Congress in 1791, rose high in the country's diplomatic service. He was appointed Minister to Holland and while serving there was appointed one of three Ministers Plenipotentiary to negotiate a treaty with France in 1799.⁵¹

One great change which came about partly as a result of the war with England, was the wave of Methodism which swept over the nation. Methodism came into Dorchester largely through the work of Freeborn Garretson, who after having been arrested here for Toryism earlier, returned to the Shore in 1781 and conducted meetings in private homes for eight or ten years. The first Methodist Church was built at Taylor's Island in 1787. Rev. Francis Asbury came to the county in 1784 and again in 1799, referring in his journals of the latter year to a chapel in Cambridge. In 1780 five Methodist societies were organized in private homes.⁵² During the same period the Old School Baptist faith drew followers from the county, but of the four meeting houses in the county, only one, the Old School Baptist Meeting House on Fishing Creek at Woolford's, built in 1791, remains and no services have been held there for many years.

Less than twenty-five years after the United States had been constituted, it again found itself at war with England. In this new war, Dorchester, unlike some other sections of the Chesapeake area, escaped serious ravages, although it was threatened several times and many people who lived near the bay and mouths of its rivers moved their livestock and personal property into the inter-

ior. Squads of home guards were organized for defense and at several points in the county, British raids did occur.⁵³ Vienna, which had been shelled by the British in 1781, threw up breastworks and mounted guns to protect its inhabitants but, although British gun-boats were frequently in sight of the town, no attack was made.⁵⁴

In 1814 a British tender and crew, commanded by a Lieutenant Phipps, entered the Little Choptank River and landed at farm houses for supplies of provisions. Near Tobacco Stick (now Madison), they set fire to a schooner and, in trying to flee, ran aground on a shoal in Parson's Creek. Men in the neighborhood started in pursuit and succeeded in capturing them and their ship, the *Dauntless*. Phipps, his crew, and a Negro woman named "Becky" were kept overnight at Tobacco Stick, then marched under guard to Cambridge, from whence they were taken to Easton. A small cannon, captured from the ship, was named "Becky Phipps" and now stands at the entrance to Taylor's Island as a trophy of this naval battle.⁵⁵ Captain Joseph Stewart, who was in command of the counter-attacking expedition, and his men were recognized for their bravery by Acts of Congress in 1816 and 1817.⁵⁶

In the same year that the *Dauntless* was captured, another British crew on a tender or barge went into the harbor at Tobacco Stick, and burned the ship of Captain Thomas Linthicum, taking him as a prisoner and keeping him at Kent or Poplar Island for several months.⁵⁷ These two incidents caused the erection of barracks near the upper end of Tobacco Stick and guards were encamped there for several weeks.⁵⁸

Reports of an attack impending on Cambridge were made in 1812, when a squadron of British ships were sighted off James' Point at the mouth of the Choptank River. Seven craft in the river were captured and several ships burned, but the fleet sailed away without attacking the town.⁵⁹

In the years following the War of 1812, there was little in the peaceful progress of Dorchester to distinguish it from other Maryland counties. For the second time it saw one of its sons become governor of the state, and another of its citizens become Maryland's first Attorney General. On a less exalted scale, it had Patty Cannon.

Charles Goldsborough, who had been one of Maryland's three Congressmen to vote against a declaration of war with England in 1812, was elected Governor in 1818 and served for one year.⁶⁰ Josiah Bayly became the state's first Attorney General in 1811, and, in that capacity, signed the papers granting Betsy Patterson Bonaparte a divorce from Jerome Bonaparte, brother of the Emperor Napoleon. A duplicate of this document, dated February, 1812, is owned by Mrs. A. Shepherd Bayly of Cambridge.

Although little survives in historical record of the notorious Patty Cannon, who according to legend, was the head of a slave dealing and kidnapping gang whose operations extended over three states, her name, for generations after her death in 1829, recalled deeds of brutality and murder. Part of her story is interwoven in George Alfred Townsend's Eastern Shore classic, *The Entailed Hat*, and from other sources can be pieced together a chronicle of the events in this woman's notorious career.

Patty Cannon, according to local tradition, came to Delaware from her home in Canada after her marriage to one Alonza Cannon, a wheelwright of Delaware who was taken ill at her mother's home in St. John's, New Brunswick. (Patty's grandfather was said to have been the son of a wealthy English nobleman who was disinherited because of a low marriage)⁶¹ After her hus-

band's death which some sources say occurred as a result of the discovery of his wife's true character preying on his mind, and other sources say was due to poison administered by Patty, she moved to a house on the Maryland-Delaware line and set up a tavern.⁶² Her full scale operations in crime began after her association with her daughter's second husband, Joe Johnson, her principal henchman and partner. With Patty as the master mind, they headed a gang of kidnappers who stole slaves and kidnapped free Negroes to sell in southern states. They operated an extensive system of underground way stations, many along the Nanticoke and other rivers of the Shore. Murder and robbery, too, were charged to them. In Philadelphia, Patty reputedly had a Negro agent whose job it was to decoy Negroes, ply them with liquor and hold them for Patty's vessel to convey to one of the way stations. Negroes who proved difficult were killed or cast overboard and slave dealers, too, were said to have been murdered in the tavern operated by Patty and Joe Johnson.⁶³

Suspicious aroused among the neighbors at first led to nothing, for by its strategic location on the border of two states and on the boundary line of two counties in Maryland—Dorchester and Caroline—it was a simple thing for Patty Cannon and her gang to elude officers of the law by moving into that part of the house which was in the other state. Tradition says that it was a concerted raid by the officers of both states which finally brought about her capture. Joe Johnson escaped, but Patty was subsequently tried in Georgetown, Delaware, on a charge of murder. According to Hulbert Footner, in his *Rivers of the Eastern Shore*, a member of the gang confessed, took officers to Patty Cannon's tavern and assisted them in recovering several skeletons. In the attic twenty-one Negroes were allegedly found shackled and chained to timbers which formed their cell. Patty and two members of the gang were sentenced to death and three others were sentenced to seven years in prison. Later, Footner writes, Patty asked for a priest and confessed to having killed eleven persons with her own hands and to having been an accomplice in twelve other murders.⁶⁴ She did not pay the penalty of hanging for her crimes as she committed suicide in her cell by taking poison several weeks before the date set for her execution.

Johnson's Tavern, now converted into a private house, still stands in Dorchester County, with a tongue of Caroline County reaching down in front of it, and the Delaware State line hardly twenty yards from the porch. An historical marker has been erected there by the State of Maryland.

As the War Between the States approached, interest in Dorchester County was quickened by the fact that a Dorchester man, Thomas Holliday Hicks, was governor of the state. As in the rest of Maryland, opinion was vehemently divided between loyalty to the Union and secession. Although Southern in its tradition, with much of its agriculture largely based on slave labor, many of her citizens could not submit to dissolution of the Union. Consequently when war finally came, both the Union and Confederate armies included volunteers from this county. Governor Hicks had been elected in 1857 on the American Party ticket and served until the expiration of his term in 1861. The chief executive of the state, in spite of being a slave owner himself, took a firm stand for the Union. In the summer of 1861, he summoned the adjourned Maryland Legislature into session, not in Annapolis, the state capital, but in Frederick, and on the morning when the delegates were to meet, September 17, 1861, the United States Secretary of War ordered the arrest of any or all of the members, in order to prevent the passage of an Act of Secession.⁶⁵ Several members of

the legislature, the Mayor of Baltimore, a member of Congress and two editors were arrested and sent to Fort Lafayette and Fort Warren.⁶⁶ Later, while serving in Congress, Governor Hicks said, "I believe that arrests, and arrests alone, saved the State of Maryland from destruction. I approved them then, and I approve them now."⁶⁷ If such were the case, the action of Governor Hicks, Dorchester's third governor, saved Maryland for the Union and possibly affected in many ways the outcome of the war.

In the county itself, feeling naturally ran high and county volunteers in the armed forces distinguished themselves in uniforms of blue and of gray. The First Eastern Shore Regiment of Infantry, Maryland Volunteers, was organized in Cambridge in September, 1861 with Colonel James Wallace as its commanding officer. Of this regiment, Companies A, B, and C, were recruited in Dorchester. Company A, however, was mustered out of service on August 16, 1862 after it refused to leave the Eastern Shore to do military duty in Virginia. The regiment with the other companies composing it, was detailed for guard duty along the coast, and, when General Lee invaded Maryland, asked to be sent to join the Army of the Potomac at the front. Its men were sent to Baltimore, and with General Lockwood's Brigade reached Gettysburg on July 3, 1863, and immediately joined the Twelfth Army on Culp's Hill and won a record for splendid service. They pursued the Confederate forces to the Potomac and after a brief duty there were ordered back to the Eastern Shore.⁶⁸

In the meantime, those whose sympathies were with the Confederacy "ran the border" and joined either the Maryland Line fighting with the Army of Northern Virginia or enlisted in other Confederate outfits. At the time of the Civil War, it was possible for a draftee to pay another to fight in his place, and many Dorchester countians paid a substitute to fight in the Union forces while they entered the war as Confederate volunteers. The procedure of "running the border" consisted in a surreptitious crossing of the bay, then an overland trip through Southern Maryland, and finally a secret crossing of the Potomac into Virginia. Dr. Thomas H. Williams, of Cambridge, entered the Confederate service as a surgeon and became the Assistant Surgeon-General of the Confederate States Army. Another Cambridge resident, Colonel Clement Sulivane, had a distinguished record in the Army of Northern Virginia.

An interesting point in connection with Colonel Sulivane's service was made a number of years ago in an article in the *Baltimore Sun*.⁶⁹ When General Lee's lines near Petersburg were broken in April, 1865, and his army reduced to less than 30,000, he was forced to retreat before a host of 275,000 men. Two men were selected to bring off the rear guard action of the retiring army. Both were Marylanders, Colonel Sulivane, and Colonel H. Kyd Douglas of Hagerstown, both were lieutenant colonels in rank and had enlisted as privates in 1861. To Colonel Sulivane, Lieutenant General R. H. Ewell delegated the task of bringing off the extreme rear guard at Richmond, and burning with his own hands the last bridge across the James. He was the last retiring soldier of the Army of Northern Virginia, to leave Richmond on April 3, 1865.

Certainly any discussion of the Civil War from the point of view of Dorchester County, must include a reference to Anna Ella Carroll, who, although a native of Somerset County, is buried in the Carroll plot at Old Trinity Churchyard. Her father, Governor Thomas King Carroll, moved to Dorchester in 1840, and while there is no record of Anna Ella Carroll's living in the county she was a frequent visitor at her father's and her brother's homes here.

Anna Ella Carroll has been called many things, from "the silent member

of Lincoln's cabinet" and "the unnamed general of the Civil War," to "spy" and "traitor." Traitor she certainly never was. A staunch Unionist, she believed in the principles of the Federal Government and, since Maryland did not secede from that Union, it remained her government for which she made many sacrifices with no recognition whatever. Miss Carroll is believed by many to have been the power behind Governor Hicks, and correspondence between her



"Friendship Hall," East New Market

and the governor and other prominent men of that date, recently discovered in the library of the Maryland Historical Society and at "Trentham" the home of her sister, Sally Carroll Craddock, in Baltimore County, has brought forth light on her activities and her influence during the war period.

A writer of note and the possessor of a brilliant legal mind trained by her father, Miss Carroll occupied a position of social and intellectual prominence in Baltimore and Washington. On September 9, 1861, her famous "Reply to Breckinridge" appeared in pamphlet form without signature. Fifty thousand copies were printed and distributed by the War Department on the order of President Lincoln and this presumably was the beginning of her association with the Lincoln administration.⁷⁰

Recently two books have been published on the life of Anna Ella Carroll, *My Dear Lady*, a biography by Marjorie Barstow Greenbie, and a novel *Woman With A Sword* by Hollister Noble. They portray clearly her rôle as the originator of the "Tennessee Plan," which was conceded to be of such brilliant strategy that its author should be made known. They speak of her legal tract "The War Powers of the General Government," and of the innumerable services which she rendered the government, and for which she received no pay and no recognition. Several bills were introduced into Congress for her recompense but without passage.

Naturally the work which Anna Ella Carroll did was top secret and very

few persons in the government actually knew the scope of her work. Presumably because of the death of President Lincoln and the precarious days which followed it, and, later, the presidential candidacy of General Grant who had been the hero of the Tennessee campaign, official Washington made little effort to acknowledge its obligation to her. In recent years, when time has erased the bitterness of the Civil War, and when new material revealing her activities has been found, Anna Ella Carroll has achieved the fame which is so rightfully hers, although that recognition is still unofficial.

Three more wars have passed since the Civil War drew to its close. In each of these Dorchester has supplied its quota of troops who have fought heroically on battlefields throughout the world.

The County has provided three governors since 1862—Governor Henry Lloyd, who served from 1886 to 1888, Governor Phillips Lee Goldsborough, who served from 1912 to 1916 and who was later a member of the United States Senate, and Governor Emerson C. Harrington who was chief executive of the state during the first World War, 1916-1920.

In World War II, one of the most outstanding contributions to its successful end was made by a non-combatant of whom his home county of Dorchester is quite proud—Captain Granville Conway, who directed the largest shipping fleet in history, first as director of Atlantic Shipping for the War Shipping Administration and, after 1945, as Administrator of that governmental branch. The management of shipping was one of the remarkable successes of the war, and, in appreciation of his services, two allied nations conferred signal honors upon Captain Conway—France, the office of the Legion of Honor, and Belgium, the Order of Leopold.

Since the close of the Civil War period, Dorchester has changed industrially, as has the rest of the Shore. The emancipation of the slaves changed the method of farming and the introduction of machinery has revolutionized it. While agriculture continues as the backbone of the county, the packing and canning of vegetables, the catching and packing of seafood, and the manufacture of garments in sewing factories are leading industries in the county. An economic survey made a year ago by the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce lists eighteen basic industries in the county. Shipbuilding, in which the county excelled for many years, is listed although, except during the war period, on a considerably smaller scale than in former years. The county is the home of the Phillips Packing Company, one of the world's largest packers of food products. Because of its large marsh area, which in past years has produced millions of dollars worth of muskrat pelts, a National Wild Life Refuge is located on the Blackwater River, the center of the county's muskrat area.

From the scattered one hundred persons living in Dorchester in 1659, the county's population has grown to an estimated 32,000.⁷¹ Cambridge, its county seat, was incorporated in 1745, but it grew slowly until after the Revolutionary period. In the eighteenth century, from 1700 to 1775, its population was estimated to have been from 300 to 500 inhabitants.⁷² In 1860, it had increased to 1,200, and in 1948 the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce estimated its population as 12,500. The second largest population center in Dorchester is the town of Hurlock, founded in 1867, in the northern section of the county.⁷³

The census of 1930 listed a population of 26,813 for the county. It is interesting to note that at the time of the first federal census the Negro population in the county was approximately one third of the total population, and in 1930 the ratio was approximately the same as Negroes made up 29.2 per cent

of the population.⁷⁴ One of the outstanding members of the Negro race, Harriet Tubman, was born in Dorchester County, in Bucktown District, about 1820. Known as "the Moses of her people," Harriet Tubman, after escaping from her master in 1849 to the North⁷⁵ was a "conductor" of the Underground Railroad. She is said to have made a total of nineteen journeys back into slaveholding territory to assist in the freeing of slaves although there was a reward of \$12,000 for her capture.⁷⁶ Evidence later disclosed that she was a conspirator with John Brown in the planning of the Harper's Ferry Raid.⁷⁷ During the War Between the States, she served as an unofficial liaison worker between the freed Negroes in South Carolina and Federal troops, and nursed in hospitals for these Negroes and in those for Union soldiers.⁷⁸ In 1863 she organized a secret service corps in and near Beaufort, South Carolina, operating through the Negroes in that section.⁷⁹ Harriet Tubman died at Auburn, New York, in 1913, honored by white and Negro alike for the courageous contribution she had made to her race.

In chronological form, a history of any county must, unless the thread is to be hopelessly lost, omit many of the most interesting features. One of these is the types of homes which were built, some of which still stand today as testimony to the past. Henry Chandlee Forman, in his *Early Manor and Plantation Homes of Maryland*, lists five distinct types of Dorchester architecture. The most usual is the story and a half house, built of clapboard, with small dormer windows and with brick chimneys at the gable ends. Another, the Transquaking River house, he describes as a tall building with small rooms, flush chimneys at the gable ends, and with arched heads to the first floor windows. The floor level in this style of house is forty-four inches above the ground. A third type, called the Nanticoke River house, is higher from the ground, the chimneys rise flush, the window heads are arched in the gable ends and the main walls of the house are thinner at the second floor, forming a shelf on the inside of the house. Forman distinguishes between two types of "East New Market House," one having the gable on the long side of the house and facing the approach, with the curtain or colonnade and kitchen extending off to the short side of the house, and the second type having its kitchen approach at the back.⁸⁰

"Spocot," built by Stephen Gary soon after his land was patented to him in 1662, is probably one of the finest examples of the story and a half type house as well as being one of the oldest houses in Dorchester County. It is owned by former United States Senator George L. Radcliffe, a native Dorchester countian, and a descendant of Stephen Gary. The house is T-shaped, with five broad chimneys and thirteen dormers. Located a few miles from Cambridge, the house was once the center of a self-contained community, having had a shipyard, general store, blacksmith shop, gristmill, and large slave quarters. Of these, only two of the slave houses which have been made into a tenant house survive.⁸¹

One of the most interesting places in the county is "Rehobeth," patented to Colonel Richard Lee of Virginia in 1670, and one of the original manors of the county. It was surveyed in 1673 for John Lee, son of Colonel Lee who was also the ancestor of the Stratford Lees. The land remained in the Lee family until 1787. According to Hulbert Footner, the mansion on the property was built by Thomas Lee, the father of Richard Henry Lee and Francis Lightfoot Lee, signers of the Declaration of Independence.⁸² The original house burned, but was restored by Mrs. Francis V. Brueil and the late Mr. Brueil who pur-

chased the property in 1917. The same foundations were used and the rooms were laid out, as far as possible, according to their original plan. It is an interesting place, not only because of its association with the Lees and its restoration, but also because of the large collection of firearms which Mr. and Mrs. Brueil collected over many years. It is said to be one of the finest private collections of its kind in this country. "Rehobeth" is located on Marshyhope Creek near Eldorado.



Manning House, "The House of the Hinges"

East New Market, which dates from the early eighteenth century, stands on land formerly granted to Bartholomew Ennalls. While a small town, it has four old homes which have received wide attention from lovers of architecture. "Friendship Hall" was built in 1790 by Major James Sulivane, who served as quartermaster general of Dorchester County during the Revolution. It is a two and a half story mansion with brick pilasters apparently supporting the string-course and two oval windows in the pediment of the west gable.⁸³ Its panelling, winding stairway, and fireplaces make it an architectural gem. "Maurice Manor," a frame structure, across the road from "Friendship Hall," is another contemporary Sulivane house and in the town itself stand the "Manning House," sometimes called the "House of the Hinges" because of the great hinges which hang on the meat house in the rear,⁸⁴ and the Jacobs house.

Near East New Market, in the village of Secretary, stands "My Lady Sewall's Manor," built by Henry Sewall, secretary of the province of Maryland under Charles Calvert. The house was erected soon after 1661 when a grant of 2,000 acres of land was made to him. After his death a number of years later, Lady Sewall married Charles, Lord Baltimore. The panelling in the house, reputedly built in London in 1720 for Major Nicholas Sewall, is now in the Brooklyn, New York, Museum.

"Pitt's Desire," a log house erected before 1700, in which Freeborn Garretson was arrested for Toryism, "Whitehall" built in 1750, with an unusually large lunette window, "Yarmouth" or the "White House Farm" built in 1725 by John Eccleston, the "House on Shoal Creek" built in 1750 by Joseph Ennalls, and the home of Governor Charles Goldsborough, are a few of the old homes still standing on the route from East New Market to Cambridge.⁸⁵

Cambridge grew from the river, where its first house, "The Point," was erected in 1709. Its oldest homes are on High Street which leads from the water past the Court House and historic Christ Church into the business section. Much of the present business section was formerly residential, but all of the old homes which graced its streets and old "Dorchester House," wherein political history was made, have been torn down as the town has grown commercially.

Among the old High Street homes is the Edgar Bayly house, which was built in Annapolis and brought to Cambridge by barge in 1747 by John Caille. It originally was placed on the site of the present Court House but was later moved to its present location. It is perhaps the most interesting property in Cambridge from an antiquarian's point of view and has an extensive boxwood garden. Next to it, now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Orem, is a house built by John Caille in 1763 on land leased from the Murrays. The Judge Charles Goldsborough house on the opposite side of the street was erected about 1790, and for a number of years was the home of the old Cambridge Yacht Club. The home of Mrs. C. M. Dunn was built in 1803 and has been owned since that time by descendants of its first owner, S. W. LeCompte.

Perhaps the second oldest house in Cambridge is the Cambridge Woman's Club building, "Sycamore Cottage," which was originally the front part of the property now owned by Colonel and Mrs. F. E. Powell. The house was probably built prior to 1759 as it was willed at that time by William Vans Murray to his daughter. In 1828 it was purchased by Henry Page, a distinguished Maryland lawyer and politician, and in 1840 he sold the part now known as "Sycamore Cottage," replacing it with a larger structure. The cottage was moved to its present location and was later acquired by the Woman's Club.

Other old homes in Cambridge include "The Hill" built by John Woolford, whose grave and that of his wife are on the property and bear the dates 1770 and 1772; "LaGrange" built in 1760; the Jordan House, originally a part of Belvoir Tract, with a quaint dairy and ancient smokehouse and an old boxwood garden; the Earle Orem house built soon after 1766 by Josiah Bayly; and the Cambridge Seminary Building, now the Veteran Administration offices, but originally the home of Dr. Joseph Muse. Later this building, erected in 1825, was the Female Seminary and still later a public school.

Christ Episcopal Church is the third building to have occupied its site. Two earlier buildings were burned and the present church was erected in 1883-1884. It is of Gothic design and has three excellent stained glass windows—one by James Powell and Sons, Whitefriars, London, one by Tiffany, and one by Gorham. Adjacent to the church is the old cemetery which has been in use since the early part of the eighteenth century. The oldest marked graves are those of Colonel John Rider and his wife, dated 1733 and 1737. Governor Charles Goldsborough, Governor Henry Lloyd, Governor Phillips Lee Goldsborough and Governor Emerson C. Harrington are buried there and there is a memorial to Governor John Henry. Just outside the door of the church is the grave of Mrs. Willemina Goldsborough, daughter of Dr. William Smith, the first president of the University of Pennsylvania and the founder of Washing-

ton College. Governor Thomas Holliday Hicks is buried in Cambridge Cemetery and Governor Carroll, who became a resident of Dorchester after his term as governor, is buried at Old Trinity.

Adjacent to Cambridge are "Glasgow" built by William Vans Murray in 1760 and for many years the home of the Tubmans, and "Hambrooks," originally called "Busby," an early home of the Steeles. "Castle Haven," part of an



Phillips Packing Company, Inc., Plant, Cambridge

800 acre grant to Anthony LeCompte in 1659, stands near the mouth of the Choptank River and part of the house was built in 1730.⁸⁶ "Jarvis Hill," 1740, and "Windemere," the summer home of Senator Radcliffe, with the east wing built at Taylor's Island in 1700, are of interest in the Neck district.

In the lower part of Dorchester, where many early colonists settled a great many houses have been destroyed by fire. Church Creek has a number of interesting places. The "Old House on Church Creek" across a cove from Old Trinity Church, was built about 1700 and is a story and a half type house. Brick walls are eighteen inches thick in the old part and its straight panelling and mantle are unique. "John's Point," near Madison, said to have been the meeting place of the first County Court, has burned. It was built soon after 1665 by John Hodson and had walls two feet thick, and high window sills as a protection against Indians.

"Mulberry Grove," the home of James K. Spicer at Taylor's Island, was built in 1684 and was the home of the Pattison family. Originally called "Dover," its name was changed after mulberry trees were brought from China in an attempt to raise silk worms. Its panelling is of random-width boards and has diagonal braces. The stairway has a deep stair with a diamond carved newel-head.⁸⁷ "The Cator" or "LeCompte House," built in the early eighteenth century, still stands although in disrepair. The first Methodist services on Taylor's Island were held there from 1781 to 1787.

Hoopers' Island, Straits and Lake's districts were settled in approximately 1660 and actually the first reference to what is now Dorchester County was made by Captain John Smith, who was caught in a severe storm in Hooper's Strait in 1608. He referred to that body of water as "Limbo Straits."⁸⁸ Lovey Lake's home, "Lake's Cove," built in 1739 still stands, and there are a number of homes throughout this area which contain parts of houses built in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries.

To list and describe all the old homes in the county would be impossible in an article such as this. Many others exist, and throughout Dorchester they stand as memorials to the pioneers and their descendants who forged a county out of the wilderness and endowed it with their heritage—a county that has played an enviable part in the social, religious, political and economic affairs of Maryland, and a heritage of which all Dorchester residents are justly proud.

NOTES, CHAPTER XLVIII

1. Alice Norriss Parran, *Register of Maryland Heraldic Families*, p. 15.
2. Dr. Elias Jones, *History of Dorchester County* (revised edition), p. 30
3. W. Laird Henry, "Introductory Sketch of Dorchester," in Swepson Earle's *Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore*, p. 69.
4. Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 33.
5. Henry, *op. cit.*, p. 69.
6. *Ibid.*, p. 68.
7. Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 31 ff.
8. Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 29.
9. Henry, *op. cit.*, p. 68.
10. Raphael Semmes, "Aboriginal Maryland, 1608-1689," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XXIV, No. 2 (June, 1929), p. 162.
11. *Ibid.*, p. 158.
12. *Ibid.*, p. 162; F. G. Speck, *Indians of the Eastern Shore of Maryland* (Address to Maryland Historical Society, 1922), pp. 1-3. See Chapter in this work by Dr. Weslager.
13. Raphael Semmes, *Captains and Mariners of Early Maryland*, pp. 397-407.
14. Speck, *op. cit.*, p. 9.
15. Semmes, *Captains and Mariners*, p. 407.
16. *Ibid.*, p. 409.
17. *Ibid.*, pp. 409-10.
18. *Ibid.*, pp. 411-12.
19. *Ibid.*, p. 412.
20. Parran, *op. cit.*, p. 26.
21. Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 34.
22. *Ibid.*, pp. 36-37.
23. *Ibid.*, p. 56.
24. *Ibid.*, p. 57.
25. Clipping from *Daily Banner*, date unknown, which cited as references Jones' History, and reports of the 1730 commission furnished by the late Rear Admiral T. Holliday Hicks.
26. Dr. E. E. Lamkin, Address to Cambridge Rotary Club on Vienna History in December, 1928.
27. Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 106.
28. *Ibid.*, p. 173.
29. *Ibid.*, p. 35.
30. *Ibid.*, p. 38.
31. *Ibid.*, p. 118.
32. *Ibid.*, pp. 123-124.
33. Heads of Families, *First Census, 1790, State of Maryland*, pp. 55-57.
34. Judge Samuel K. Dennis, "Eastern Shore Personages," in *Eastern Shore Society Bulletin*, No. 4, 1939-1943.
35. *Ibid.*, p. 26.
36. Lamkin, *op. cit.*
37. Jones, *op. cit.*, pp. 379-380.
38. *Ibid.*, pp. 177-178.

39. Esther M. Dole, *Maryland During the Revolution*, p. 70. See General Narrative, Chapter XIX.
40. *Ibid.*, p. 85.
41. Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 212.
42. *Ibid.*, p. 213.
43. *Ibid.*, p. 67.
44. *Ibid.*, p. 237.
45. *Ibid.*, pp. 214-216.
46. *Ibid.*, p. 227.
47. Dole, *op. cit.*, p. 205.
48. Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 221.
49. Dole, *op. cit.*, p. 209.
50. Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 246.
51. *Ibid.*, p. 427.
52. *Ibid.*, pp. 125 ff.
53. *Ibid.*, p. 254.
54. *Ibid.*, p. 85.
55. *Ibid.*, p. 255.
56. *Ibid.*, p. 256.
57. *Ibid.*, p. 257.
58. *Ibid.*, p. 256.
59. *Ibid.*, pp. 257-258.
60. Dennis, *op. cit.*, p. 23.
61. Hulbert Footner, *Rivers of the Eastern Shore*, p. 146.
62. *Ibid.*, p. 146.
63. *Ibid.*, p. 148.
64. *Ibid.*, pp. 150-151.
65. L. Magruder Passano, *History of Maryland*, p. 133; See the General Narrative of this work.
66. *Ibid.*, p. 133.
67. Marjorie Bristow Greenbie, *My Dear Lady*, p. 123.
68. Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 265.
69. Clipping from *Baltimore Sun*, date unknown, but shortly after the death of Col. H. Kyd Douglas.
70. Greenbie, *op. cit.*, p. 118. See Elizabeth H. Moberly, "President Lincoln's Confederate," *Baltimore Sunday Sun* (Magazine), September 4, 1949.
71. Figures furnished by Cambridge Chamber of Commerce.
72. James S. Shepherd, *Historical Sketch of Cambridge*, p. 13.
73. Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 94.
74. *15th Census of U. S., Population Bulletin, Maryland*, p. 13.
75. Earl Conrad, *Harriet Tubman*, p. 35.
76. *Ibid.*, p. 112.
77. *Ibid.*, p. 128.
78. *Ibid.*, pp. 161-163.
79. *Ibid.*, p. 164.
80. Henry Chandlee Forman, *Early Manor and Plantation Homes of Maryland*, pp. 161-162.
81. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 404.
82. Footner, *op. cit.*, p. 145.
83. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 403.
84. *Ibid.*, p. 403.
85. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, pp. 401-402.
86. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 405.
87. Forman, *op. cit.*, p. 164.
88. Footner, *Maryland Main and the Eastern Shore*, p. 190.

CHAPTER XLIX

Cecil County

*By William E. Burkhardt**

Cecil County, up the northernmost reaches of the Chesapeake Bay, caps the pylon of counties comprising the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia. Although Cecil is a tidewater county, its rivers are not deep and in many instances their waters soon lose their brackish nature, turning into swift flowing, fresh water streams as one progresses towards their head.

The County perhaps has more contrasts in mores, speech, and manner than the other counties of the Shore group. It is here that the Eastern Shore as such ends and even soil content changes, once the Bohemia is crossed, and the western part of the county is more Western Shore than any of the other counties. At the same time as one advances northward the sections of the county thereabout show a decided Quaker and Pennsylvania Dutch influence.

Like its neighboring counties, Cecil has built tradition and witnessed the myriad, kaleidoscopic events that have gone into the making of America, for essentially it has been a road-bed for people and events in their travels making our history. Geography makes Cecil County the shortest overland route between the Chesapeake and Delaware bays. Here on the comparatively level, narrow plateau of coastal plain has been laid the great transportation arteries of north-south traffic of the eastern seaboard.

The original natives, tradition tells us, were not too congenial as neighbors. In the northern part of the county the Susquehannocks, members of the great Iroquois nation, ranged southward along the Susquehanna conducting raiding parties against the milder Lenapes of the Delaware groups. Artifacts found show the Indians of the northern part of the county were a more highly civilized group than those of the southern section of the county.

Captain John Smith gives an account of the size and strength of the Susquehanna chief: "The calves of his legs were three-quarters of a yard about and all the rest of his limbs so answerable to that proportion that he seemed the goodliest man he ever saw." Although Smith was prone to exaggeration on occasion, he may have been less so in this case. His description has been confirmed by the unearthing of a number of skeletons of extraordinary size when the foundations of the bridge across the Octoraro Creek were being prepared.

* Born at Easton, Talbot County, Maryland, in 1912; graduated from public schools, Washington College, and holds the Master's degree from Duke University; has taught history and English and handled athletics at Rehoboth (Delaware), Federalsburg, Chesapeake City, and Elkton (Maryland) high schools. Served in the U. S. Navy from 1943 until December, 1945; acting principal of Chesapeake City High School; married Miss Zolpha Cameron, a direct descendant of General Henry S. Stites, one of Maryland's three full Generals.

The Susquehannocks numbered about six hundred able men according to Smith. Trouble soon developed between the Maryland colonists and this tribe, "instigated . . . by William Clayborne, who . . . had possession of Kent Island and had established a trading post on Palmer's Island, at the mouth of the Susquehanna River."¹ Claiborne and the Indians caused an expedition against the natives to be launched in 1639. However, the rigors of the following winter caused the enterprise to be abandoned. Yet numerous hostile incursions of the Indians into the territory occupied by the early settlers about this time must have kept them constantly in turmoil.

Finally, in 1652, a treaty was made with the Susquehannocks which in part reads as follows: "The English nation shall have, hould and enjoy to them, their heires and assigns forever, all the land lying from Patuxent River unto Palmer's Island on the westerne side of the baye of Chesapeake, and from Choptank River *to the northeast branch, which lyes to the northward of Elke River, on the easterne side* of the said baye with all islands, rivers, creeks, *trees*, fish, fowle, deer, Elke, and whatsoever else to the same belonging, excepting the Isl of Kent and Palmer's Island, which belong to Captain Clayborne."² Writers of this early period also assert that the Swedes of Christiana (Wilmington, Delaware) sold firearms to the Susquehannocks and hired some of their soldiers to instruct them in the art of war. This is not conclusive and it is more probable that the Indians secured weapons from the French in Canada, the Dutch at Manhattan, or from their relative tribes of the Five Nations.

Another tribe, the Shawanese, originally situated in the south, migrated northward. Some of them stopped in Elk Neck and for many years after it was settled by the Europeans that part of it along the North East River was called "Shawnah." Many of the tribe were apparently industrious basket makers and fishermen. They had a village just below Arundel Creek, the name once applied to the run in the southern part of North East. Some of this tribe were baptized as members of the Episcopal church at North East. There is also reason to believe that at least one of them was employed by the Principio Iron Company, the name of Indian James being found upon the books of that company for the year 1726. There was also an Indian village called Poppemetto, not far from the mouth of Rock Run and probably near the Indian Spring, which is not far from the site of the old chapel east of Port Deposit."³

Today no evidence remains of these early peoples except artifacts found and the hieroglyphics on the rocks in the Susquehanna River, the latter now inundated by the waters impounded by the Conowingo Dam.

The first English settlement within the present limits of Cecil County was upon Palmer's Island, later named Watson's Island and at present called Garrett Island, near the mouth of the Susquehanna. Some evidence would indicate that William Claiborne of Virginia was the first to establish a trading post there, but letters of John Pory, Secretary of the Virginia Company, dated prior to Claiborne's arrival on Kent Island, report that "we left settled very happily nearly a hundred Englishmen with hope of a good trade in furs," apparently in this section of the Bay.⁴ At any rate, Palmer's Island was a place of importance before the arrival of Lord Baltimore and his colonists. Twenty-five or thirty years after the bay was first explored by John Smith it was a trading center.

The first permanent settlement in Cecil County was made in 1658, on the Simcoe Farm a short distance northwest of Carpenter's Point, not very far from the mouth of Principio Creek. Spesutie Island was settled sometime before the

treaty of 1652 with the Susquehannocks, for there is evidence that the Dutch at Altona (now Wilmington) knew of it the next year and called it Bearson's Island. The island lying off Turkey Point was settled by Nathaniel Utie. The word *Spesutie* means Utie's hope. Utie was to rise to a position of some distinction in Maryland, particularly in his dealings with the Dutch. Although his missions were not of great success, they brought to the fore Augustine Herrman. The latter, at this time working on his famous map, was called in because of his linguistic ability and in this capacity became acquainted with the country and later settled there. Herrman and his family figured prominently in county affairs for at least a quarter of a century, moving to Bohemia Manor in 1661. A year later he received his first patent.⁵ In 1661, Herrman proposed a town be erected and permission was granted by Lord Baltimore to call it Ceciltown and to name the county, Cecil County. This was the first mention of Cecil County in the early records of the province and the records indicate that Herrman originated the name. This land was at the junction of the Elk and Bohemia rivers; and though Cecilton was not built upon it, it still bears the name of Town Point.⁶ Located today on Town Point is the resort settlement of Port Herrman.

At about the same time (1659) "a tract of land, containing four hundred acres, was taken up and patented at Frenchtown, on the Elk River, under the name of Thompsonstown. At this time there was a fort garrisoned by the English on Watson's Island and perhaps one on Spesutie Island. A few years after this there is reason to believe the English had a fort or block-house in Sassafras Neck not very far from the junction of the Great and Little Bohemia rivers. The Indians also had a fort on Iron Hill and on the west bank of the Susquehanna River." They were in undisputed possession of most of the country between the head of the Chesapeake Bay and the Delaware River.⁷

There followed a period of unrest between the English on one hand and the Indians and Dutch on the other. Some difficulty took place at Iron Hill and Grey's Hill (now Red Hill) and some lives were lost. The Senecas (Five Nations Indians) conducted a series of raids over a period of years, but eventually the way for colonial development was opened as the native menace was removed.

Augustine Herrman, in 1660, applied to the Maryland Council for a patent of naturalization for himself and his five children. In the same year Anna Hack and her sons were also naturalized. "These Hacks were no doubt the Hacks whose name has been perpetuated by being applied to Hack's Point, which is on the south side of Bohemia River, nearly opposite where the manor house stood."⁸ Herrman was on excellent terms with his Dutch neighbors. In fact, authorities in New York in 1671 ordered the Dutch at New Castle to clear one half a road from that point to Herrman's plantation, the Marylanders having offered to clear the other half. It is of interest to note that a canal to connect the waters of the Chesapeake and Delaware bays was already under consideration. Herrman, no doubt, promoted the plan because of the benefits he would receive from such construction and because his knowledge of the topography of the section told him it was adaptable to such a project. His sons settled in Delaware and soon the first road in the county was constructed from the manor to their residence on or near the route of the present road leading from St. Augustine to Bohemia Bridge. This was no mean feat for the time, for it was about twenty-two miles in length. For years after Herrman's death, it was called the "old man's path."⁹

Thirteen years after Herrman proposed the erection of Cecil County, Governor Charles Calvert proclaimed "the original boundaries of the county" in 1674.

The first court house was erected on the north side of the Sassafras River, a short distance east of Ordinary Point. It was afterwards called Jamestown, and is now called Old Town. It was easily accessible for most people by use of navigable water. There is not much to be learned about the court house except that it was built by Casparus Herrman in 1692.¹⁰ It was small and the jurors often left it to hold their deliberations under the shade of an oak tree which stood on the river bank nearby. It became known as the Jury Oak. Thus Cecil County was on its way toward becoming one of the more important of the counties of the Free State.

Among those who first settled in the county were the Labadists, a Christian sect, whose doctrines were "a compound of mysticism, Calvinism and communism."¹¹ The Labadists purchased a tract from the aging Augustine Herrman on Bohemia Manor, in 1686. They survived on Bohemia Manor and then were "lost among the dispersed."

George Talbot, in 1680, obtained his first patent for Susquehanna Manor, approximately 32,000 acres, and was empowered to hold court, a privilege never granted Herrman. For some reason Talbot's Manor was renamed New Connaught. The section of the county lying east of Susquehanna Manor was called New Ireland. The first Irish settlers were Roman Catholic, but Irish Protestants arrived later. As early as 1684 the name of County of New Ireland was given to a tract now in Cecil and Harford counties.¹² During the hectic days of the fiery Talbot's administration he had a company of mounted rangers whose duty it was to scout the county and repel attacks of hostile Indians, a few of whom still lingered in the county north of New Ireland. A line of block-houses at proper and convenient intervals extended from one end of it to the other and signals were established for calling his band together. Beacon fires on hills and other devices were used. Bacon Hill of today was originally called Beacon Hill because it was the site of these signal fires. Today it is topped by an aircraft signal beacon and the name is again reverting to Beacon Hill.

Scarcely three months after Colonel Talbot last presided over court in Cecil County, he stabbed to death one Christopher Rousby and was jailed in irons. He was rescued by his wife, abetted by two Irishmen, a Murray and Riley, and fled to Susquehanna, Maryland. The old English "hue and cry" was raised by the authorities, none of whom seemed anxious to secure his arrest. He fled to a cave, a little below what is now Port Deposit and which has long since been obliterated. Tradition has it that he had a pair of falcons or hawks with him and he was kept alive by wild fowl they caught in the river. However, there is evidence he visited at the house of George Oldfield, in Elk Neck. Talbot eventually surrendered, stood trial, and was pardoned.¹³

Most early colonists seemed to be wholly concerned with the raising of tobacco and were not interested in the erection of towns. Also as they had less cause to fear Indians, the security of towns was not in their thoughts. It remained so until 1683, when the legislature set to work with great zeal to rectify the situation. But in their earnestness they defeated the object they had in mind, erecting so many towns on paper that not one of the number attained any magnitude or distinction as a town or city. In many instances, inhabitants of present Cecil County are unaware of their existence, yet, several such towns were ports of entry. They are thus described: "At Captain John's Creek, William Price's plantation on Elk River; in Sassafras River; at William Frisby's plantation in Worten Creek; and by two supplementary acts passed in 1684 and 1686, at the plantation of John West, in Sassafras River, and in Elk River, at a place called Ceciltown, at the mouth of Bohemia River."¹⁴

The effort to establish this second Ceciltown was a failure as had been the earlier effort to establish one at Town Point. It is doubtful that a half-dozen houses were erected on the site of the town.¹⁵

In 1736, Fredericktown, on the Sassafras River, was laid out. The town still exists as does Georgetown, directly opposite it on the other side of the river. Growth of these towns was very slow and in the early years of their existence they seem to have benefited slightly from travelers who were passing between the northern and southern parts of the country.

Fredericktown was the residence of part of the Acadians or French Neutrals who were exiled from Acadia in 1755.¹⁶ Descendants from some thirty or forty of these families still reside in the county.

One of the earliest settlements in Cecil County which has survived to the present is the town of Charlestown. The reasons for building the town are set forth in the preamble of the act of incorporation of 1742. They were, briefly: to encourage trade and navigation so as to promote prosperity; to establish a town as the best means of doing so, and "there being as yet no such place settled at or near the Head of Chesapeake Bay, although from the great extent of the country round, & the want of navigable water above it, the same seems altogether necessary."¹⁷

Two hundred acres were set aside for the town and three hundred acres adjacent for a "common"—that is, for the common use of its citizens. Parts of the town were reserved for the erection of a market house, courthouse, and other public buildings, and for the purpose of erecting a public wharf and warehouse "for the more commodious carrying on of trade."¹⁸

The new town prospered at first and lots were sold quickly. The principal articles of export were grain of all kinds, flour, and flaxseed. No tobacco was shipped, apparently. A flour inspector was appointed and no flour was to be shipped from North East River from any other place than Charlestown. Flour that was not merchantable was branded with a broad arrow and its shipment forbidden under penalty of five shillings per barrel.¹⁹

Early residents of Charlestown had an eye for business and also for the meager social life a gregarious but isolated people could gather. By 1744, the people of the town were holding fairs "whereat great numbers of people did meet."²⁰ The General Assembly authorized the town to hold two fairs to begin on the 23rd day of April and the 18th day of October annually, providing these days were not Sundays; if so, the fairs were to commence the next day and to continue for not more than three days. These occasions soon became very popular and were attended by people from as far away as Boston. Beyond all doubt they increased the prosperity of the town and added to its notoriety. Tea and coffee are said to have been first introduced into this county by means of the facilities afforded by these fairs. The merchants from the cities brought their commodities there and disposed of them to the country people, at the same time furnishing them with printed directions showing how to manufacture the new beverages. The Reverend John McCrery, who was pastor of Head of Christiana Church, it is said, carried a supply of tea with him when he was away from home engaged in missionary labor, and upon one occasion gave some of it to the lady of the house where he was stopping and requested her to prepare it for his supper. She boiled it and served him the boiled leaves on a plate, when he quietly remarked he would much rather have had the "broth."²¹

The Charlestown fairs were attended by the merchants and milliners from

Baltimore, Philadelphia and other large cities who came via water, and by large numbers who came from Chester and Lancaster counties, traveling on horseback. It was a rough age, one of hard drinking, hard fighting, and in some instances of low morals. During one of the fairs a group stopped to water their horses at the creek where the road crosses east of the town. While drinking, they found a murdered peddler whose blood was coloring the run. The murderer had taken sanctuary in a tree and was instantly found. To this day the stream is known as Peddler's Run. Many who attended these fairs came to participate in the fiddling and dancing, merry-making and brawling. Ladies who traveled via foot carried their shoes and stockings and upon arrival, after washing their feet in the most convenient stream, put on hose and shoes and entered the town.²²

The spring fair was held in May after the fishing season and many a fisherman's earnings evaporated. Another source of income was from the feminine attendants who purchased their finery, which otherwise could be obtained only in the large cities. The fairs were held on the public square of the town, rented to the highest bidder for a term of years. The proprietor erected drinking booths and stalls upon the fair grounds. These booths, rude structures made of brush, were to be rented for not more than seven shillings and six pence each for each fair.²³

It would appear that the average Charlestown citizen was not too imbued with civic pride. In 1750 the original act of incorporation was supplemented with a provision that all citizens should grub and clear their respective lots of all under-wood grubs and bushes, under a penalty of thirty shillings. Lots had been described as thickets, unserviceable for pasturage, inconvenient, and unwholesome for all inhabitants.²⁴ It was further enacted that a fine of ten shillings should be set upon any inhabitant who should permit his chimney to take fire so as to blaze out at the top or who should fail to keep a ladder long enough to reach the top of the roof of his house.

That Charlestown was more than just a riverside clearing is further shown in the records. It was one of the disembarkation points for part of the ill-fated Braddock expedition, for at a "meeting of the commissioners in 1757, it was ordered that a number of chests, then in the warehouse (supposed to be the property of some officers killed at the defeat of General Braddock), be broken open and an inventory of their contents be sent to the governor, in order to ascertain what disposition should be made of them. Two years afterwards the contents of these chests were sold at public sale."²⁵

Whereas it is customary today for Chambers of Commerce to enumerate the number of autos in their cities, Cecil County commissioners listed three two-wheeled carriages (sometimes called "chairs") in Charlestown; for the county there were thirty-four in 1757, and forty-five in 1762. In 1768 the town had a taxable population of eighty-nine, of whom twelve were Negro slaves. The whole population was about three hundred and fifty. The rate of increase in population was declining, for in 1744 the number of taxables was ninety-two, including eleven slaves.²⁶

Charlestown and Baltimore are nearly of the same age and they were great rivals until Baltimore pushed considerably ahead shortly before the Revolution. Trade with the western part of the colony and superior facilities for foreign commerce, enabled Baltimore to outstrip the Cecil County town. Many inhabitants of Charlestown tore down their houses and shipped the materials to Baltimore to be used in the construction of other buildings.

After the Revolution the people were able to turn their minds to local affairs

and one of the first problems was to secure a more convenient location for the county seat. In 1781 a vote was held to determine the peoples' choice. The result showed the following: for Charlestown, 527; for Head of Elk, 3; for no removal from Court House Point, 2. Despite the decisive vote, the justices were divided and at the following session half met at Court House Point and half at Charlestown. A period of dissension followed between justices, but in the end court was held at Charlestown, where four lots were condemned for county use to erect a court-house and a "gaol." The court at the time was meeting in rented quarters and continued to do so. The jail, however, was authorized and built in 1783. But public opinion was slowly changing and Charlestown became less desirable. The post-war depression and the decline of Charlestown, coupled with a mounting desire for a change prevented a public building, other than the jail, being erected at Charlestown. Head of Elk was becoming a place of some importance and had considerable trade in flour with Philadelphia. The Hollingsworths, actively interested in Head of Elk, were men of great influence, wealth, and distinction and were chiefly responsible for the removal of the seat of justice from Charlestown to Head of Elk in 1786.²⁷

History was not, however, to leave Charlestown to memories. After the Revolution the town continued to decline, but in 1812 with the declaration of the British blockade of the Chesapeake Bay, a fort was ordered constructed at Charlestown. Following their attack upon Havre de Grace, the British turned their attention to Charlestown. But they met no opposition there and committed no depredations. From this point the raiding forces visited Principio Furnace, which at that time was one of the most important cannon manufacturing concerns in this country, burned it, "and spiked the cannon they found there, and burned a mill in the neighborhood, and the bridge over Principio Creek."²⁸ They then retired to Spesutie Island and on May 5th, 1813 held a rendezvous off the mouth of the Sassafras River and on the 6th sent a detachment of about five hundred men in fifteen barges and three small craft up the river. Whereupon they burned Fredericktown and Georgetown.

Another incident some years later brought more gun-fire than the "conflict" with the British. In May, 1836, a large number of Irish laborers who were employed in grading the road-bed of the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad Company near Charlestown, attended a fair at that place and soon were deep in their cups. The effects of this alcoholic carnival gave way to an old-fashioned riot, which from all accounts was the most bloody that ever occurred in Cecil County. While the riot was in progress, the infuriated and drunken Irish made an attack upon a dwelling and were repulsed by gun-fire. When the inmates' shot was exhausted, their women cut pewter spoons into slugs and this ammunition drove the rioters off. The next day the sheriff summoned the Cecil Guards, composed of citizens of Elkton, to his aid. Some twenty-five or thirty Irish were arrested and of this number seven were indicted for riot. Two men were convicted and sentenced to pay fines of one dollar each and serve jail sentences of two years each.

Charlestown today is slowly growing once more, but this growth is not one of industry or commerce. It now has become a resort place for citizens of the county and Pennsylvania who are content that the community follow its pleasant peaceful trend.

Elkton as a civic community began with its incorporation in 1787. As Head of Elk, it had long had an honorable history. Its early name describes it perfectly,

for it is located at the head of the tidal channel of the Elk River, which also made it a strategic point for north-south travel. In 1744, Dr. Alexander Hamilton, passing through Head of Elk on his way from Annapolis to New England, wrote: "I crossed Elk Ferry at three in the afternoon . . . I lay at one Hollingsworth's at the head of Elk."

The land upon which Elkton is built was part of a tract of fourteen hundred acres patented to Nicholas Painter in 1681, under the name of Friendship. A Swedestown is mentioned, but seems to be difficult to locate. "In 1697 two Swedish missionaries on their way to Delaware sailed up the Bay and Elk River and landed at a village which they said had been founded by their countrymen."²⁹ It was called Transtown, and was probably located at Elk Landing, though some historians locate Transtown on the site of Frenchtown. John Smith is supposed to have erected the first mill at the Head of Elk. This mill existed as early as 1706. In the following year William Anderson petitioned the court for permission to retail strong liquors at the Head of Elk, "he being a poor man and much incumbered with people passing and repassing to said mill along the Queen's road."³⁰ Hollingsworth's Tavern became one of the most famous stop-over points on the north-south route and still stands on West Main Street in Elkton.

Head of Elk became vitally important during the Revolution. "Not only did the town shelter travelers, but here was stored quantities of supplies for the Continental Army, mostly in the form of salt and grain. Head of Elk is recognized to have been one of the leading wheat markets in America. . . . It was considered such a strategic point that a large brick building was authorized by the state legislature in 1777 to accomodate transient soldiers."³¹ This building was first proposed by Colonel Henry Hollingsworth, who in 1776, with an eye for business accompanying his patriotism, proposed that he manufacture gun-barrels and bayonets for the use of troops. This proposition was accepted and a sum of £500 was advanced to him. He was to receive 20 shillings per barrel and 8 shillings per bayonet. He thus became the first person to engage in such manufacture in the state. Hollingsworth's labor turnover was large and the lack of skilled laborers was a handicap. Many of the bayonets manufactured were improperly tempered and because of faulty steel were easily bent. This caused the defective material to be returned with censure from Congress, much to the annoyance of the Colonel.

Colonel Hollingsworth became Commissary for the Eastern Shore and upon him fell the task of supplying vessels and food for American and French troops embarking at Elkton enroute down the Elk River and the Chesapeake Bay. "To procure the necessary supplies, he and other patriotic citizens actually pledged their private fortunes to obtain cattle, flour and boates."³²

Head of Elk saw General Howe and his army pass through on their way to Philadelphia in 1777.³³ The British destroyed a large quantity of grain and made raids on the country-side. Militia was organized on the Eastern Shore and marched to Head of Elk to harass and annoy the enemy's right flank and gather intelligence. Militiamen from nearby Western Shore counties were also ordered into the area and volunteers came from all sections of the State to cut off marauding parties sent out to forage for horses and supplies of food.³⁴

Washington arrived in Head of Elk on August 25, 1777, for personal reconnaissance, lodging the night at Hollingsworth Tavern. Two nights later Howe spent the night at the same Tavern using the same room. The British advanced slowly (in fact, the colonials delayed the advance about two weeks) and in September they occupied Greys Hill and a line from Glasgow (Aikens) northwest to Iron Hill.

Not all were loyal to the cause and answering Howe's call for all Loyalists was one Robert Alexander. Alexander owned all the land between the hollow and Far Creek and as a person of the local aristocracy prepared entertainment for the British officers, going down river to welcome them. When the fleet sailed, Alexander departed with them, leaving his wife and several children, never to return. At the cessation of hostilities the estate of Alexander was confiscated and declared property of the state. The commissioners appointed to dispose of Alexander's estate "laid out the largest part of the present town of Elkton upon the property. In 1782 building lots were sold at public sale. It was at this sale that the site of the court house, which was erected three years later, was bought. Colonel Hollingsworth purchased large quantities of this land."³⁵

In 1781 Lafayette was dispatched by Washington with 1200 men to Head of Elk, enroute to Annapolis, for putting a stop to ravages committed by troops under Benedict Arnold in the lower Bay area. In the same year Washington and his army also passed through Head of Elk enroute to the siege of Yorktown. Other units did likewise, both before and following the capture of Yorktown. One officer, Claude Blanchard, recorded in his diary in August, 1782 that "Head of Elk is in a very dry soil, and one is drowned with dust there. Fever is very prevalent there, doubtless caused by the swamps in the vicinity."³⁶

In 1781 some Rhode Island troops, quartered in the house of a Jane Clark at Head of Elk, got into a quarrel with a gang of watermen who attacked them in their quarters at night, and being driven away, returned and renewed the fight the next morning. Jane Clark kept a hotel or at least sold liquor and it was in the evidence that the watermen were drunk and probably the soldiers were in the same condition. "The fight was ended by one Forteen Stodder, a *negro soldier* from Rhode Island, shooting James Cunningham, the leader of the sailors, from the effects of which he died shortly afterwards."³⁷ Stodder was indicted for murder and was convicted of manslaughter. His sentence was that he be branded in the "brawn" of the left thumb with a hot iron. The court records show that the sentence was carried out. This was the last punishment of this type to be inflicted in Cecil County.

Cecil County's contribution to the war effort, in addition to meeting spot requisitions of the various armies and carrying on normal business and manufacturing, consisted of furnishing men and leaders. In all, "three battalions of volunteers were raised in Cecil, consisting of about 75 men each. Colonel Charles Rumsey commanded the 2nd Battalion, Colonel John Veasey, the 18th, and Colonel George Johnson, the 30th. Colonel Henry Hollingsworth was the recognized agent in Cecil for the Continental Congress. John Rudolph served throughout the Revolutionary War as a major in 'Light Horse Harry' Lee's battalion. His cousin, Michael Rudolph, also served in 'Lee's Legion' as a captain. Their courage won for them the distinction of 'Lions of the Legion.' Michael married a lady of Savannah, Georgia, but their married life was not harmonious and he concluded to lead the life of a sea-faring man. There is a tradition current in Cecil County that Marshal Ney was none other than Michael Rudolph."³⁸

Johnston has summarized Cecil County's rôle in the Revolution by stating that its people "were among the most patriotic in the state, and the heroic part they took in the long and bloody struggle . . . fully attests their bravery. They shunned no danger, and shrank from no duty, however unpleasant it may have been, that the exigencies of the times imposed upon them. There were a few Tories in the county, but . . . [they] found it best to seek safety by joining the royal army upon the first favorable opportunity."³⁹

The county was organized for war as the other counties of the state. A Committee of Safety kept its eye on affairs within the county and members of the Convention and then of the State Legislature in Annapolis represented the views of those back home and sought to promote their best interests.

The close of the Revolution found Elkton thriving and reaching the point where it would shortly become the county seat. There was one matter, however, which the Reverend Joseph Coudon, curate of North Elk Parish, felt should be taken care of before other matters were undertaken. He prepared "A short address to the inhabitants of the village and neighborhood of Elk, on the subject of erecting a house of worship in said village, together with a preamble to a subscription humbly proposed." In part, it stated: "It has been too long remarked by the numerous travelers that pass through our village, as well as regretted by the friends of it, that notwithstanding the rapidly growing importance of the place—the various scenes of industry and exertions it is noted for—amidst the many buildings that are daily saluting our eyes, and rising and about to rise to view—there is no appearance of even an humble building dedicated to the worship and service of the supreme ruler of the universe. . . ." Attached was a list of those who pledged toward the erection of a church. Leading the subscribers were John Gilpin, £30; Tobias Rudolph, £30; Zebulon Hollingsworth, £30; and Henry Hollingsworth, £30. Johnston reports, however, that owing "to the unpopularity of most of the clergy of the Episcopal Church, and the fact that Methodism prevailed to some extent in the surrounding country . . . the enterprise proved to be a failure, and the contemplated house of worship was never built."⁴⁰

In 1786 Head of Elk and the county were required by act of the legislature to levy a tax, not exceeding £1200, for the erection of a court house and jail. A public lot had been purchased with a condition that a public market-house be erected on it. The condition was complied with, but it was readily apparent that the lot was too small for the court house also. Jacob Hollingsworth came to the rescue, donating another lot. Subsequently, the Legislature in April, 1787 passed an act incorporating the town under the name of Elkton, and making provision for the removal of the market-house to its new location.

Henry Hollingsworth in 1787 donated an acre of land to the town commissioners for the erection thereon of a house of worship or a schoolhouse for the promotion of literature and the Christian religion. This was the origin of Elkton Academy.

The act of incorporation of Elkton contained many curious provisions. Tuesdays and Saturdays were specified as market days. The sale of all victuals and provisions was prohibited by law before ten o'clock on those days within one mile of the market-house. Animals could not be slaughtered on the public lot, nor could horses or other beasts of burden be hitched inside the market house. The town clerk was to supervise the market-house and inspect the weights and measures of the vendors.⁴¹

The first town commissioners were Joseph Gilpin, Tobias Rudolph, Sr., Zebulon Hollingsworth, Joseph Baxter, and Edward Oldham.

Cecil County now began to expand in many ways. Among persons who came to the fore following the Revolution was James Rumsey from the head of the Bohemia River, who applied for a patent for a steam boat in 1784. It is interesting to note that this boat was propelled by means of jet action, a stream of water forced through a trunk or cylinder parallel to the keel, at the stern of the craft.

In 1783 the legislature passed an act to make the Susquehanna navigable from

the state line to tide water and the company for the Susquehanna Canal was formed. This was the old Maryland Canal which extended from Love Island nearly to Port Deposit. The work progressed slowly due to lack of funds. In 1796 the first grain boat from Huntington, Pennsylvania, made a run to Baltimore and because of its success the deadline for completion of the canal was extended to



Great House Plantation, St. Augustine

1805. Unfortunately the first canal was too narrow to be of much use and it was widened in 1810. Other endeavors were in manufacturing, led by Colonel Henry Hollingsworth. The Cecil Manufacturing Company was formed in 1794 and located on the Little Elk Creek above Marley. This mill was to manufacture linen, woolen, and cotton goods. In 1811 a Mr. Wilson erected a woolen mill on the same stream and gave the name of Leeds to the village there, naming it after Leeds, England. His daughter, Hannah, organized the first Sunday school in the county and perhaps the first in the state, at New Leeds Church in 1816.⁴²

The county was not greatly touched by the War of 1812, except for spasmodic raids and burnings. With the advent of the British fleet in the Chesapeake, a camp of observation was set up on the summit of Bulls Mountain and a company of cavalry stationed there. A line of military posts was established extending up Elk Neck to Elkton to give warning if the invasion fleet should be sighted. Forts were set up at Fredericktown, Frenchtown, Charlestown, and Elk Landing. Fort Defiance was also erected. The Fort at Elk Landing was named for Hollingsworth, and was built on his property. Earthworks were fashioned and a few pieces of small cannon mounted, while at Fort Defiance chains were fastened across the river and submerged, to be raised to trap the British barges if they passed above this point. No opposition met the British advance until Welsh Point was reached. There a small squad of militia ineffectually attempted to halt the advance. After burning Frenchtown and two vessels the British made two attempts to reach Elkton, but were driven back. Since large amounts of Lancaster wheat was hauled

to Elkton to be milled, there was a kindred spirit between the two communities and Lancaster sent two companies of soldiers to aid in Elkton's defense. The British sailed on to Havre de Grace to return later to Fredericktown. They remained in the bay until 1814 to the great alarm of the people, withdrawing with the Treaty of Ghent in 1815, which was hailed with great rejoicing.⁴³

Thompstontown or Transtown, later Frenchtown, figured somewhat in the War of 1812, though hardly cutting its teeth as a town. It had grown as trade prospered. A turnpike company was formed in 1809 to operate a freight line between Baltimore and Philadelphia. "The freight was taken on sloops from Baltimore to Frenchtown and then by wagon to New Castle, Delaware. There it was loaded on vessels for delivery in Philadelphia."⁴⁴ This turnpike company later became the Frenchtown and New Castle Railroad. The town and turnpike company flourished, much to the envy of Elkton, located three miles to the north. Because of Frenchtown's growing importance the British fleet under Admiral Cockburn raided and burned it on April 29, 1813. A weak defense had been erected but it was quickly abandoned by the small garrison left to man it. But stage and wagon drivers took over and remained until their ammunition was exhausted. Only Frenchtown house, later the Frenchtown Hotel and now called the Frenchtown Tavern, survived.

After the War of 1812 trade over the entire nation was abetted by the use of steam power in transportation. The *Chesapeake*, the first steam driven boat to ply Chesapeake Bay and tributary waters, made its first trip from Baltimore to Frenchtown. This maiden run to and from Frenchtown was made in twenty-four hours, covering a distance of one hundred and forty miles. Elkton now opened a rival steamship line that operated from Baltimore to Philadelphia via Elk Landing and Wilmington in 1815. In the following year two new boats were added to the Frenchtown run. In 1824, when General Lafayette came to America, he was met in Frenchtown by a committee aboard the steamer *United States*. He had come to Frenchtown by stagecoach.⁴⁶

These steamship lines operated for some years, except when ice closed the bay or Elk River. Then, passengers and mail were carried in stages via Perryville and Elkton. The increase in travel on these lines and the need for better transportation facilities across the peninsula led to organization of the Frenchtown and New Castle Railroad Company. This line when finished in 1831 was about seventeen miles long, running between Frenchtown on Elk River and New Castle on the Delaware. "It was among the first railroads built in this country, and was the very first upon which steam power was applied to the transportation of passengers, though it was built and used for horse-power for two years after it was finished."⁴⁷ When the Maryland Legislature chartered the company, some doubt as to its success existed for a provision was inserted to compel the railroad company to keep open a turnpike twenty feet wide along side the railroad. This provision was not enforced.

The business of this company began to decline rapidly with the construction of the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad and finally the two companies merged with the Frenchtown railroad ceasing all operation in 1854. Tracks were removed and in most cases all traces of this enterprise have been obliterated and Frenchtown exists in about three or four houses and The Frenchtown Tavern.

The Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, from the germ of the idea in 1680 in the mind of Augustine Herrman, has risen to a tremendously vital unit of the Inland

Waterways of the United States under the jurisdiction of the United States War Department (until unification).

In 1799 the American Philosophical Society of Philadelphia ordered a survey to be made with a view of constructing a canal on this route which seemed so important to the welfare of the coastwise commerce and naval forces of the United States.



St. Mary Ann's Protestant Episcopal Church, North East

On April 15, 1824, work was begun on the canal under John Randel, Jr., a civil engineer of New York. Owing to disagreement, Randel was relieved as engineer and work was completed October 17, 1829, under Benjamin Wright. The canal was nearly fourteen miles long and cost \$2,250,000.⁴⁸

Ninety years after the original canal was opened it was purchased by the Federal Government for \$2,514,000 and in 1927 it was converted into a sea level project at a cost of more than \$10,000,000. Further enlargement was authorized and completed in 1939. It proved of greatest importance in World War II, saving much shipping from Nazi submarines. A project is now pending in Congress to increase the canal to a 32 foot depth and a 350 foot bottom width. The present canal is a sea level route 27 feet deep, 250 feet wide, and fifteen miles long. One out of every five deep-draft ships now arriving at the Port of Baltimore utilizes this canal. Army engineers aim at making the canal available to two-way traffic for the biggest ships. The canal cuts off 340 miles for ships sailing between Baltimore and Philadelphia. Just recently it has become available to shipping on a 24-hour basis. This has been made possible by the installation of lights along thirteen miles of the north bank.⁴⁹

Chesapeake City came into existence with the canal as its Maryland terminus and its fortunes have fluctuated with it.

North East—North East antedates even the idea of founding a town at Charlestown. As in the case of Elkton, the Hollingsworth family played a promi-

nent rôle in its early days. Zebulon Hollingsworth was one of the commissioners appointed to lay out Charlestown and at the time he was a prominent member of St. Mary Ann's Church at North East and a vestryman in 1749 when the present church was built. The earliest land holder in the immediate vicinity of North East of whom any information has been obtained from county records was a millwright, Robert Jones, who had twenty acres of land condemned for a mill site at the junction of the east and main branches of North East Creek in 1711. This may have been the site of the Shannon Mill. The next mill of which there is any record was owned by Robert Dutton. In 1716 this mill was near the "bottom of the main falls of North East." There is also mentioned a forge or furnace on it. In 1719 a petition was sent to the court for a road to be laid out to facilitate access to church and court. In 1724 Daniel Davis asked the court for a license to keep a public house of entertainment—stating he was located on the main road near the iron works at North East and was often "oppressed" with strangers and travelers. Thus, even before Charlestown was thought of, North East was a place of importance due to the iron works located there. In 1744 William Black, secretary to the commissioners appointed by the Governor of Virginia to unite with those of Pennsylvania and Maryland to treat with the Six Nations of Indians at Lancaster, stated: "About sundown we came to anchor before North East town, which is composed of two ordinaries, a grist mill, baker house & two or three dwellings . . . [we] chose to be on board, as the place by its appearance did not promise the best of entertainment. The next morning we went on shore and breakfasted at the public house, where I drank the best cask cider for the season that ever I did in America."⁵⁰

The St. Mary Ann's Church at North East was built in 1700 and rebuilt of brick brought from England in 1734. The furnishings and alms plate, communion service, Bible and Prayer Book were gifts from Queen Anne.

The town of North East today is the second largest in the county and enjoys the activities and interests of the typical town of the Eastern Shore. It is the banking and trading center for a hay and grain district. The older residential and business sections are on Main Street; farm supply stores, a brick foundry, and a small basket factory are located near the railroad.⁵¹

Perryville—Perryville was originally included in Susquehanna Manor, the thirty-two thousand acres granted to Lord Talbot by his cousin, Lord Baltimore. Through the town ran one of the principal highways between the North and South. It was a ferry town, with the first steam ferry coming in 1837. The present site of the Veterans Administration Hospital, Perry Point, was surveyed in 1658 and patented to John Bateman. It passed from private ownership in 1918 when the Federal Government bought it. During the Civil War it was a training station for mules and horses.⁵²

Rising Sun—Rising Sun is a banking and trading center of grain-growing farmers. Founded as Summer Hill, the town in 1816, according to one report, took its present name from a tavern whose shingle depicted the sun peeping over the horizon.⁵³ The town became a distributing center for chrome from near Port Deposit in the latter part of the nineteenth century before such operations ceased in 1881. Less than three miles southwest of Rising Sun is West Nottingham Academy, the oldest preparatory boarding school for boys in America, founded in 1741. The founder of the Academy was the Reverend Samuel Finley who, when the Whitefield revival caused a split in the Presbyterian ranks in 1741, headed the

New Light party in this district. In 1761, Dr. Finley left to become President of Princeton College.⁵⁴ The Presbyterians of Cecil County look back to the early days of West Nottingham, about 1724, with pride, for it was at that place and at that time the Scotch-Irish settlers in upper Cecil County laid the foundation of Presbyterianism in the county. That congregation was later called Lower Octoraro and was a branch of West Nottingham.⁵⁵



Jacob Tome Mansion, Port Deposit, Cecil County

Port Deposit—As early as 1729 Thomas Cresap operated a ferry at what is now Port Deposit. In the early nineteenth century it was called Creswell's Ferry. The present name was made official in 1813 by the Assembly, one year after Philip Thomas established the town following the boom along the Susquehanna River upon the completion of the Maryland Canal in 1812. By 1822 Port Deposit handled \$1,337,925 worth of merchandise in one year. Transported here was lumber, the main article of commerce, and wheat, flour, whiskey, and iron. Herring and shad fishing added to the town's wealth. In spite of the railroad competition, Port Deposit (as a town of deposit for products coming down the Susquehanna) had in 1880 a population of 1,950, double its present figure. The decline that has set in is due to the shortage of timber up-river, the effect of dams upon commercial fishing, as well as to the railroads and the use of deeper harbors. The only important industry that has survived is quarrying.

Jacob Tome (1810-1898), successful merchant and philanthropist, was closely identified with the town's development during his lifetime. He established the Jacob Tome Institute, an educational foundation incorporated to provide book learning and manual training. The Town Schools in Port Deposit were opened in 1894 and now take the place of a public school in the community. In 1900 the Institute opened the Tome School for Boys which has now suspended operations.⁵⁶

Cecil County today is a well diversified county. Some of its wealth comes from mineral resources which are more varied than those found in other Eastern

Shore counties. Its crystalline rocks include deposits of granite, kaolin, quartz, feldspar, and chrome. Iron ore is also found, but the once flourishing iron industry was supplied largely with ores shipped in by water from Harford, Baltimore, and Anne Arundel counties. Granite and kaolin are the only minerals produced in recent years. The granite quarry at Port Deposit is one of the largest and best known in the state. The amount of clay, and sand and gravel in the county is great. Sand and gravel have been most extensively developed, chiefly in the vicinity of North East. Millions of tons have been taken for highway construction as well as for the Conowingo Dam.⁵⁷

Good soil and climate, proximity to Baltimore, Wilmington, and Philadelphia, together with excellent railroad and highway facilities, have aided Cecil County in developing a prosperous agricultural industry. Gross farm income in 1945 was third highest of Eastern Shore counties, while Cecil led in receipts from the sale of dairy products. The United States Census of Agriculture for 1945 showed 1,326 farms, averaging slightly over 123 acres. Over \$16,772,000 was invested in farm real estate, implements and machinery, and livestock. Over 2,000 family and hired workers were directly engaged in farming activities. Total farm population in 1940 was 8,324 persons.

About three-fourths of the cash farm income is derived from the sale of livestock and livestock products. Dairy products contribute about half of the total receipts, with poultry and poultry products and other livestock items each supplying over 12 per cent. Crops account for nearly one-fourth of cash farm returns, with wheat and vegetables leading. Large acreages of corn and hay are grown, principally for consumption on the farm.⁵⁸

Manufacturing operations were early established in Cecil County to utilize its mineral and timber resources (now both passed) and to grind the grain produced on its lands. While industry had developed into considerable local importance over the years, it did not assume large-scale proportions until the advent of World War II.

With the cumulative value of its major war supply contracts amounting to more than \$134,000,000, the peak wartime employment of Cecil County's manufacturing plants was nearly 13,000. The Elkton plant of Triumph Industries Inc., which at one time during the war employed more than 11,000 workers, loaded one third of all the 40 mm. anti-aircraft shells manufactured in the United States. Other important war contracts awarded to concerns in Cecil County called for the production of land mines, incendiary bombs, pyrotechnic flares and signals, paper, barges, tankers, lighters, PT boats, seaplane tenders and hoisting equipment.

The significant contribution of Cecil County to the Nation's war production effort is indicated by the fact that the value of its major war supply contracts was exceeded by that of only three other political subdivisions of the state, namely, Baltimore City and Baltimore and Washington counties.

At the close of 1946 approximately 1,600 persons were employed in the county's manufacturing establishments. Although this total was far below the record for the war period, the county now has a broad diversification of industry, with no one type of activity occupying a dominant position. Moreover, the local Chambers of Commerce, the Elkton Branch of the State Employment Service, and various service clubs and civic organizations are actively co-operating in a program to strengthen the county's postwar economic position. These efforts already have resulted in the location in the Elkton area of a number of small industrial firms.

The principal lines of manufacture in Cecil County at the present time include paper, rubber toys and specialties, fireworks, upholstery fabrics, hoisting machinery, men's and boy's furnishings, women's dresses, hosiery, small tankers and barges, vegetable canning, and stores.

Elkton is the chief industrial center in the county. Other communities with manufacturing facilities include Childs, Colora, Elk Mills, Perryville, Port Deposit, Providence, and Rising Sun.⁵⁹

Elkton, largest town in Cecil County, had in 1940 a population of 3,518; North East, 1,328; Chesapeake City, 1,094; Port Deposit, 883; Perryville, 729; Rising Sun, 529; Cecilton, 498; and Charlestown, 307. Until the enactment of Maryland's 48-hour marriage law, in 1938, Elkton enjoyed a wide notoriety as the Gretna Green of the East.

Besides the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, there are several other large government-owned properties in Cecil County, including the United States Naval Training Center at Bainbridge (recently closed except for a skeleton force), and the Veterans Administration Hospital at Perry Point.

On Elk Neck, directly opposite the community of North East, is the main tract of the Elk Neck State Forest, a reservation of approximately 3,500 acres. Stocked with deer, rabbits, squirrels, birds and other game, the area is available for hunting during the open seasons. Near the extreme southern end of the peninsula of Elk Neck is the 995 acre Elk Neck State Park. Overlooking both the Chesapeake Bay and Elk River, the park affords a wide variety of picturesque scenery. It is equipped with cabins, picnic grounds, camp sites, trails, and fishing areas.⁶⁰

Cecil County has the distinction of having had situated within its confines the first great ironworks in the American Colonies. This was the Principio Iron Works, established about 1715. It operated on the west bank of Principio Creek, making iron bar and supplying cannon balls during the Revolution. The plant was burned by British raiders in 1813 and in 1836 another company resumed operations in a building near the original site. Until about 1910 a pig iron furnace operated there, and a charcoal iron forge operated until 1936. Augustine, father of George Washington, once owned one-twelfth interest in the original company. In 1737 the company had four furnaces, two forges, 30,000 acres of land, slaves and livestock in abundance. Over half the pig iron exported to the Mother Country from America at this time came from the Principio properties.⁶¹

Cecil County contains a wealth of historic homes, too numerous to mention here. Among the better known, however, are Octorara, built before 1700, overlooking the Susquehanna River and Conowingo Lake; the spacious mansion erected by the late Thomas F. Bayard, United States Senator from Delaware, on part of the large tract which held the estate of his ancestor, Augustine Herrman; Bohemia, formerly Milligan Hall, is nearby, and was built about 1745; Susquehanna Manor; Worsell Manor, on land granted in 1685; Rose Hill, on the Sassafras River, dating from 1683; Rich Neck Farm, on a bluff overlooking the mouth of the Sassafras River and Chesapeake Bay; Mt. Harmon, dating from 1682, overlooking Ordinary Point; Partridge Hill, built prior to 1750 at Head of Elk; Holly Hall, built in 1802, near Elkton; Perry Point, built before the Revolution; Frenchtown House, built about 1800; Tobias Rudolph House, built in 1768 at Head of Elk; Success, a farm on which was built a house in 1734; Oldfield's Point, built in 1768; The Hermitage, in Elkton, over two hundred years old.

The county also has many interesting old churches, including St. Mary

Anne's at North East, built in 1700, already mentioned; and St. Stephen's Church in Cecilton, the present structure of which dates from 1873, and the first building of which was nearby and dedicated in 1706.⁶²

Cecil County has an interesting newspaper history.⁶³ The first paper in the county was the *Elkton Press*, founded in 1823, and running until 1842. *The Cecil Republican and Farmer's and Mechanics' Advertiser* was founded in 1832 and ceased publication in 1834. The *Central Courant* was published in Port Deposit from 1833 until late 1834. The *Cecil Gazette and Farmers' and Mechanics' Advertiser* was born in 1834, running until early 1841. *The Cecil Whig and Port Deposit Weekly Courier* first appeared in 1835 and gave way to *The Elkton Courier* in 1836 which ceased publication some time before August, 1839. In that month the *Port Deposit Rock and Cecil County Commercial Advertiser* was founded but it suspended publication in January of the following year. On August 7, 1841 the first issue of *The Cecil Whig* appeared and it has continued to this day.

The *Cecil Democrat and Farmers' Journal* succeeded the *Cecil Gazette and Farmers' and Mechanics' Advertiser* in 1840. Its name was shortened to the *Cecil Democrat*, as it still is called today, when the paper changed hands in 1848. The *Temperance Banner* was founded in Elkton in 1848, but it died shortly after being moved to Baltimore in 1850. The *Union Reformer* was established in 1855 as a Know-Nothing paper and had a short existence. The *Jackson Picket Guard* was published early in the fall of 1856. The *Cecil County News* was founded in 1880 and lasted until the turn of the century. The *Cecil County Star* was founded in Elkton in 1885. It was moved to North East and published as the *North East Star* until 1927 when its name was changed to *The Cecil Star*. It ceased publication in 1929. The *Elkton Appeal* appeared in 1884 and was published until 1906. The *Chesapeake Chesapeake* was founded in Chesapeake City in 1876, renamed the *Chesapeake Record* in 1878 and published for another year. The *North East Record* was published for about two years, expiring in 1881. The *Perryville Record* was founded in 1893 and died in 1906. The *News* was established at Perryville in 1947. The *Midland Journal* was established in Rising Sun in 1878, renamed the *Home Journal* in 1880, and again called the *Midland Journal* in 1885 and to the present. The *Rising Sun Journal* was founded in 1878 and disappeared around 1890. The *Charlestown News* had a short life in 1850.

Any brief survey of a county as old as Cecil must leave much unsaid. An attempt has been made to present the highlights of the county's past as well as of its modern institutions. Some of the halcyon days of history remain as memories, yet the history of any community will continue to be etched in time so long as people remain. At present Cecil is a highly prosperous county, slowly progressing and absorbing events unto itself, retaining its character as is and always has been the case with the counties of the Eastern Shore.

NOTES, CHAPTER XLIX

1. George Johnston, *History of Cecil County, Maryland* (Elkton, 1881), p. 15.
2. *Ibid.*, p. 17.
3. *Ibid.*, p. 4.
4. *Ibid.*, p. 7.
5. *Ibid.*, pp. 26-38.
6. *Ibid.*, p. 40.
7. *Ibid.*, pp. 40-41.
8. *Ibid.*, p. 71.

9. *Ibid.*, pp. 76, 78-79.
10. *Ibid.*, pp. 82-83.
11. Paul Wilstach, *Tidewater Maryland*, p. 109; Johnston, *op. cit.*, Chapter 9. see Chapter IX of the general narrative.
12. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State* (New York, 1940), p. 51.
13. Johnston, *op. cit.*, pp. 125-130.
14. *Ibid.*, p. 254.
15. *Ibid.*, p. 259.
16. *Ibid.*, p. 260.
17. Quoted in *Ibid.*, pp. 265-266.
18. *Ibid.*, p. 267.
19. *Ibid.*, p. 268.
20. *Ibid.*, p. 268.
21. *Ibid.*, p. 269.
22. *Ibid.*, p. 270.
23. *Ibid.*, pp. 270-271.
24. *Ibid.*
25. *Ibid.*, p. 272.
26. *Ibid.*, p. 273.
27. Wilstach, *op. cit.*, p. 107.
28. Johnston, *op. cit.*, p. 419.
29. *Ibid.*, p. 225.
30. *Ibid.*, pp. 225-226.
31. S. Ralph Andrews, Jr., "Elkton in the Revolution," *Eastern Shore Society of Baltimore City Bulletin Number 2* (1927-1932), p. 52.
32. *Archives of Maryland*, V, p. 27.
33. See the general narrative of this work, Chapter XVIII.
34. Esther Mohr Dole, *Maryland During the American Revolution* (1941), p. 135.
35. Andrews, *op. cit.*, p. 54. See Johnston, *op. cit.*, Chapter XX for a comprehensive account of Cecil County in the Revolution.
36. Johnston, *op. cit.*, pp. 345-346.
37. *Ibid.*, p. 346.
38. Swepson Earle, *Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore*, p. 104.
39. Johnston, *op. cit.*, p. 318.
40. *Ibid.*, pp. 362-364.
41. *Ibid.*, pp. 365-366.
42. *Ibid.*, pp. 375-383.
43. *Ibid.*, Chapter XXIV.
44. Earle, *op. cit.*, p. 99.
45. Earle, *Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore*, p. 99; Johnston, *op. cit.*, Chapter XXV.
46. *Ibid.*
47. Johnston, *op. cit.*, pp. 425-426.
48. Earle, *Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore*, p. 99.
49. *Baltimore* (magazine), May, 1947, p. 37; *Baltimore Evening Sun*, December 9, 1949; *Baltimore Sun*, December 3, 1948; Johnston, *op. cit.*, pp. 383ff. for a historical sketch.
50. Johnston, *op. cit.*, p. 235, pp. 230-235.
51. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 321.
52. Alice E. Miller, *Cecil County, Maryland: A Study in Local History* (Elkton, 1949), Chapter VII, pp. 92-104.
53. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 301; Miller, *op. cit.*, pp. 141-142.
54. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 301.
55. Earle, *Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore*, pp. 94-95.
56. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 303; Miller, *op. cit.*, pp. 105-132.

57. *Baltimore* (magazine), May, 1947, p. 35.

58. *Ibid.*

59. *Ibid.*, pp. 35-36.

60. *Ibid.*

61. *Baltimore Sun*, December 29, 1946; *Baltimore* (magazine), May, 1947, p. 38; *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 322; Johnston, *op. cit.*, pp. 234-235.

62. See Miller, *op. cit.*, for a full listing of homes and churches; Earle, *Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore*, pp. 91-111; Earle, *The Chesapeake Bay Country*, pp. 295-311.

63. Johnston, *op. cit.*, Chapter XXVII; Paul T. Pitcher, "The History of the Press on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia," a manuscript in the possession of the History and Political Science Department of Washington College, Chestertown, Md.

CHAPTER L

Queen Anne's County

*By Raymond B. Clark, Jr.**

Queen Anne's County is regarded as one of the most pleasant of the tidewater counties in which to live. Indented by a waterfront area of two hundred and sixty-five miles,¹ it has all the essentials of the famous Eastern Shore hospitality and charm and has taken the lead in many activities. Queen Anne's County claims within its boundaries the first Maryland soil to be permanently settled. It is bounded by Talbot, Caroline, and Kent counties and the Chesapeake Bay. In addition to possessing the advantages of a pleasant climate and a good soil, the waters of this county have yielded oysters, crabs, terrapin, and wild fowl in abundance. Kent Island, included in the county, adds to the mileage of water shore-line, making it second in this respect in the state.² There are many beautiful old waterfront estates located in the county.

This county took the lead in colonial sports. It was here that the first recorded fox hunt in America was held about 1650. Gray fox of the new world were hunted until eight pair of red foxes were brought to Chestertown on a tobacco schooner and set free in Queen Anne's County. In celebration, a great ball was held in Chestertown, at that time the center of fashion and culture of the upper Eastern Shore.³ Legends say that almost every homestead had a slave whose duty it was to care for the pack of hounds. Horse racing in Maryland is also said to have had its origin in Queen Anne's.⁴

Well known for its hospitality, this county served as a haven for the oppressed in religion and society from other places.⁵ The first real settlement in Maryland was made by William Claiborne on Kent Island on August 21, 1631, three years before the Calverts and their followers crossed the Atlantic Ocean and settled at St. Mary's. Claiborne brought with him twenty-five settlers, one of whom was the Reverend Mr. Richard James, an Anglican divine, who set up St. Paul's Parish, the first in Maryland.⁶ Proof of this church's existence and its possessions which included altar pieces are found in the famous Admiralty cases—Cloberry vs. Claiborne.⁷ The settlement included a manor house, a fort and other buildings. This island was called "Winton's Island" on Captain John Smith's map.⁸

The Kent settlement originally embraced the entire Eastern Shore and was under the administration of an officer called the "Commander of the Isle of Kent." In 1639 Giles Brent (brother of Mistress Margaret Brent) who had served the Province as Treasurer was appointed commander. He received in 1640 a grant of one thousand acres near the fort which was subsequently created into a manor called "Manor of Kent Fort."⁹ This manor is mentioned in an edited list of early

* See brief sketch at bottom of first page of his article on "Libraries on the Eastern Shore."

Maryland manors¹⁰ and along with the Claiborne controversy is the subject of an enjoyable novel written by William Henry Babcock.¹¹

The fort stood near the entrance of Eastern Bay after passing Kent Point. The manor remained in the possession of the Brent family for more than a hundred years. The oldest house in Maryland, built immediately after the first settlement burned, it is small and unpretentious. Its kitchen door is slightly less than five feet, five inches high with the clearance over the stairs even less. An unmarked brick tomb has been found comparatively recently in the yard.¹²

A court was held at Kent Fort as early as 1639 and it was established as a town by an act of the Colonial Assembly in 1684. Among the first families to settle on Kent Island were the following: Legg, Eareckson, Carvill, Kemp, Tolson, Cockey, Stevens, Weedon, Denny, Bright, Skinner, Chew, Gray, Bryan, Winchester, Wright, White, Price, Thompson, Sadler (now spelled Sudler), Ringgold, Goodhand, and Osborne.¹³

The first houses were crude cabins made of logs and boughs whose chinks were filled in with mud and mortar. One side of the earliest homes had a wide chimney and fireplace, while most of the floors were of clay. The beds were of bear skins spread on the floor or stretched between stakes. Cooking was elementary and the men were experts at handling the old muzzle-loading flint-lock rifle.¹⁴

In December of 1642 it was decided to erect Kent Island and the upper part of what is now Queen Anne's and Kent counties into a county, known as Kent Island County. Three commissioners were appointed and were given broad powers, having jurisdiction over such matters as warfare and serving as chief judges in all civil and criminal proceedings. The first commissioners were: William Ludington, Richard Thompson, and Robert Vaughan.¹⁵

Kent Island is the largest island in the Chesapeake Bay. North to south it is fourteen miles long and six and one-half miles wide east to west. Triangular in form, it contains about twenty-nine thousand acres.¹⁶ It has remained fairly well populated down to the present time. The towns on it today, excluding the ferry terminals at Romancoke and Matapeake, are Stevensville, Chester, and Dominion.¹⁷

Previous to 1662 when Talbot County was created, Kent County had comprised practically all of the territory on the Eastern Shore north of the Choptank. In 1695 Talbot County, by an act of the General Assembly, extended north of Corsica Creek. In this same year Kent Island was annexed to Talbot. But when the present Queen Anne's County was formed in 1706 Kent Island became a part of it. Kent Island in summary, then, has been a settlement, a hundred of Virginia sending a representative to the House of Burgess,¹⁸ a hundred of Maryland, a county, a part of Kent, then of Talbot, and finally of Queen Anne's County.

Trade with Spain and the Spanish West Indies during the war in Europe during this early period is a possible explanation for the Spanish nomenclature in Queen Anne's County. Another explanation is that a Spanish exploring mission in search of the St. Lawrence River visited the Chesapeake Bay area, leaving its influence and possibly some settlers. Spanish names include Barbadoes Hall on Corsica Creek, an estate of the Smith family for many years, Corsica Creek, and Spaniard's neck.¹⁹

There has been much speculation concerning the earliest settlement on the mainland. Bozman²⁰ states that there was no settlement on the Eastern Shore mainland until 1660 while Reverend Ethan Allan in a *Manuscript History of Kent Island*²¹ says that after Lord Baltimore reduced Kent Island in 1647 many persons fled to what are now Kent, Queen Anne's, and Talbot counties. The provincial

records prove that in 1658 John and William Coursey took up eight hundred acres on Wye River which were surveyed in 1659 and called "Cheston." This same family later settled Coursey's Neck, near Queenstown. In 1660 William Hemsley also received a grant, laid out for him by William Coursey, deputy surveyor of the province. These settlements, and others, branched from Kent



"Peace and Plenty," Near Centreville

Island. Land near the water was settled first. In addition to the settlement of Queen Anne's County in the southern section around 1660, the northern and central areas were also settled but not as rapidly as the section nearest Kent Island. Records of 1665 disclose a grant of five hundred acres to Thomas Garrard on the south side of the Chester River near Southeast Creek. Other settlements were made on the Wye River.²²

The growth of the population in this area was rapid. In 1669 the Choptank Indians complained that their lands were being invaded by English settlers. They had been promised that their lands would not be settled upon. In this instance Sewall's Creek and Stephen's Creek had been taken over, the Indians claimed. Both were in the boundaries of Queen Anne's County.²³ Most of the early settlers were of Anglo-Saxon stock. In Frederic Emory's list of settlers only three names were found of non-English origin. Of the three, one was Dutch and the other two of Swedish descent. Many indications of Anglo-Saxon ancestry still exist, such as brick churches, sturdy old brick mansions built in quaint and rambling style, or as simple but solid homesteads that bore the Puritan influence. Most of the churches and homes, contrary to general opinion, were built of bricks made on the Eastern Shore. Earliest records show a brick kiln was in existence in 1653. It made bricks that were distinguished by their high glaze and which were russet or chocolate as compared to the brighter English-made bricks.²⁴

Large manors were in the possession of such families as the Tilghmans, Ben-

netts, Earles, Hemsleys, Formans, Ringgolds, Seths, De Courseys, Marshalls, Hawkins, and others.²⁵ Baronies were granted to gentlemen and smaller land owners were called freemen in this division of society. All of the inhabitants of the county shared some problems in common. Apprehension of the Indians and the fear of imprisonment for debt plagued many people. The records are filled with acts for the relief of languishing prisoners in jail for debts.²⁶

Of great interest was the movement to create a distinct county, and to erect a county seat, courthouse, jail, and other public buildings. An act of the General Assembly in 1674 provided for the erection of a courthouse and prison in each county. Since the settlement was mainly on Kent Island, many favored the town of Broad Creek (now Stevensville) because of its central location. But in 1686 the county seat was placed at New Yarmouth,²⁷ on Gray's Inn Creek at the extreme southern tip of the peninsula near the present-day town of Rock Hall. Kent Island residents resented this, however, as they did their later inclusion in Talbot County. This feeling led to a petition to the General Assembly in 1704 to allow Kent Island to be restored to the status of a county, independent of others. It was argued that since Kent Island was the oldest settlement in Maryland it should have the honor of being a county.

Subsequently, when the General Assembly convened in 1706 the petition supported by both Talbot County and Kent Island delegates was read aloud and it was ordered that the county be divided.²⁸ A bill providing for the division of parts of Kent and Talbot counties was drawn up, passed by the House, and then sent to the Council. On April 8, 1706 the House requested that "His Exc'y, the Gov'r, will please to name the new county Queen Ann's County." On April 9 the House gave final approval and the Council did likewise on the eighteenth. By the first of May a Boundary Commission was appointed and at work. These commissioners were also to choose a site for the erection of a courthouse for which two acres were to be allotted. The commissioners agreed to purchase land from the plantation of Major John Hawkins, in Coursey's Neck. Since a town had already been authorized on Richard Smith's land on Corsica Creek it was necessary for an Act of the Assembly in 1706 to abandon this site in favor of the new location.²⁹ Plans for a courthouse and jail were made although technicalities of law delayed the erection of the buildings.

At the new county seat, Queenstown, lots were laid out in 1706. The courthouse was erected on a lot opposite Embert's Store, formerly Denny's Store.³⁰ The streets were supposed to have been laid out similar to the cardinal points of a compass. The courthouse and jail were to be built on a lot covering two acres.³¹ Bolingly, an old estate and the home of Major Hawkins, was on the outskirts of the new county seat.

Real estate values were high for this period. One lot in 1713 sold for \$275.00 or fifteen thousand pounds of tobacco, while another in 1714 brought \$185.00 or ten thousand pounds of tobacco.³² Queenstown grew and prospered as a port and at one time was considered the chief port of the Eastern Shore. It was stimulated by the wealthy planters of the Wye River area. Several men rose rapidly in prestige and power, including John Hawkins, who served as a judge of the Provincial Court and who, as Indian Commissioner in 1680, had helped to adjust the Indian claims with those of the settlers. His son, Ernault, became Surveyor-General for the colony. The latter's son John died fighting in the American Revolution.³³

The early courts of Queen Anne's County were very strict, even puritanical.

Queenstown was the first town on the Eastern Shore to have a legalized whipping post. Sentences were carried out at "Gallows Field," just outside of town. In 1718 Catherine Langton received on her bare back fifteen lashes that drew blood. The pillory, stocks, and branding irons were also in use. In 1748 a man was branded with the word *Cheat* on his back for reducing the peck measurement. The code for branding was:

S. L.—Seditious Libeller—either cheek
M.—Manslaughter
T.—Thief—left hand
R.—Rape or Vagabond—shoulder
P.—Perjury—forehead³⁴

As time went by, severe practices of punishment were employed less. Fines came more into use. The courts were lenient in cases involving paupers, infirm persons, and others needing assistance. Residents usually responded generously to those in need.

A school was organized early and began operating just outside the town limits of Queenstown on a tract called Forlorn Hope.³⁵ The Catholic faith was strong in and around Queenstown, totalling one hundred and seventy-nine members in 1708. Having no church, mass was conducted for them in private homes by Jesuit priests from Bohemia Manor.³⁶ The Episcopal religion was the established faith at this time. In 1713 Queen Anne's County became a postal district for the Eastern Shore. The sheriff served as postmaster at a salary of 1,400 pounds of tobacco a year. He crossed the Chesapeake Bay to Annapolis in a small boat whenever there was enough mail to warrant making the trip.³⁷

Labor was abundant in Queen Anne's County. Indentured servants supplemented the Negroes. Often a white man was forced to indenture himself in order to meet his obligations. On May 12, 1710, Thomas Everett became a servant for three and a half years to Charles Lemarr for 5,500 pounds of tobacco. Convicts were also used as laborers. Captain John Law petitioned the county court for the right to bring certain convicts from parts of the Western Shore. When the practice of manumitting slaves became more frequent around 1715, slaveholders not so inclined raised violent opposition. Major John Hawkins and John Salter, Queen Anne's County Delegates to the General Assembly, introduced a bill for the establishment of a twelve pound fine on every liberated slave. They cited the demoralizing effect the new practice had on slaves remaining in bondage.³⁸

The county military organization was headed by a "Colonel" chosen by the Governor and Council. The holder of this esteemed rank took charge of the public magazine and led the troops in case of an emergency. In 1758 there was an extended debate over whether British troops would be quartered in Queenstown. Men from Kent, Cecil and Queen Anne's marched to the Maryland frontier in 1755 to stem the advance of the French and Indians in Pennsylvania, but soon returned. A row with Governor Horatio Sharpe and the Assembly over the folly of such a forced march almost led to the disbanding of the county militias.³⁹

Meanwhile, towns in Queen Anne's were growing. Of the earliest towns, four have survived: Stevensville, Queenstown, Church Hill and Centreville. The oldest town within the present limits of the county is Stevensville, earlier called Broad Creek. Once located on the water from whence a ferry was operated to Annapolis, it grew partly because of its location on the route travelled by per-

sons from the Western Shore to Philadelphia and the North. As Broad Creek it was for a short period the county seat of Kent or Kent Island County. There was a courthouse although sessions of court were held in private homes, including Richard Blunt's.⁴⁰ Concerning ports it was provided in 1710 that all towns, rivers, creeks, and coves in Talbot, Dorchester, and Kent Island of Queen Anne's County were to be assigned to the Port of Oxford. Those of Kent, Cecil and the remainder of Queen Anne's County were to be members of the Port of Chestertown.⁴¹

Former towns of Queen Anne's County, now extinct, included Ogletown, near Church Hill on South East Creek. Kingston, which in recent years has revived and is now a thriving settlement just across the Chester River from Chestertown, was erected in 1732. Ogletown was named in honor of one of Maryland's royal governors and Kingston supposedly to match Queenstown in honor of the King. Records of these settlements were ordered kept in the courthouse at Queenstown.⁴²

Queen Anne's County was well organized by the time of the Revolution. It had several churches, a county government, a school, several towns, a postal and ferry system, and various means of entertainment. Stage coaches were in use and ordinaries were in style. The manner of dress among the gentry was quite elaborate. But life moved on at a quiet, easy pace. Except for a change in officials and a few new laws and taxes, nothing greatly altered the life of the people during the colonial period after institutions had been established.

The county had become one of the wealthiest on the Shore. The center of population, moving inward, had shifted from Queenstown to Chester Mill, now Centreville Mill. It was no longer convenient for all planters to travel to Queenstown to conduct business and attend court sessions. At the time of the county's creation, the Commissioners had considered the land of William Sweetman on Corsica Creek as a more central location. Old Chester Church had been erected with a view of providing an accessible location for the congregation and thus was built in the true center of the county away from the water.⁴³ The trend toward centralizing the county seat was a natural and logical one. Queenstown was losing out in this trend. It had "Changed little in centuries . . . despite many hard efforts by foreign and local interests and capital to revive its ebbing life."⁴⁴

Residents of Queen Anne's County were well aware of the impending struggle between the colonies and England. By 1771 John Beale Bordley, member of a distinguished family and one-time owner of Wye Island, pointed out that "Foppery, idleness and dissipation" were taking over and that a struggle with Britain over trade and colonial policy was inevitable. He therefore was an advocate of self-sufficiency on the part of the planters and set an admirable example as an individualist and thinker, an industrialist, manufacturer, trader, and planter. He raised his own foodstuffs, made his own wine and beer, had a tannery to make leather from hides, and processed wool for cloth. He even manufactured salt from the Wye River water.⁴⁵ More men of Bordley's calibre and foresight would have prepared America for the perilous and critical days ahead.

James Hollyday, a delegate from Queen Anne's County, was placed in a prominent rôle at the time of the Stamp Act Controversy when he headed a committee of the General Assembly to draft a set of instructions for Maryland's representatives at the Stamp Act Congress of 1765. In Queenstown a group of citizens met at the house of Thomas Baker and from there went to the green where a copy of the Stamp Act document was burned amid fitting ceremony.

A pillar or pole was erected on this spot. Cannon was shot and an unrivalled entertainment took place. Twenty-three toasts were drunk and resolutions were passed. The demonstration was a protest against the alleged unfairness of the new taxes. But even amid their bitterness, the countians showed a reverence for England. Blood ties could not be severed without much hesitation, despite the attractiveness of independence. In 1774, another well-attended meeting was held at Queenstown to protest mistreatment of Bostonians. On May 13 resolutions expressing support of associations to break off commercial ties with Britain were passed. A Committee of Correspondence and Intercourse which consisted of fifteen men was appointed. Similar meetings were held in other parts of the state, and committees of correspondence were appointed to co-ordinate the work of the meetings in Maryland and in the other colonies. A subscription was opened for the relief of the "suffering brethren of Boston." Maryland committees met at Annapolis on June 22, 1774. The Queen Anne's County delegates were Turbutt Wright, Richard Tilghman Earle, Solomon Wright, John Brown, and Thomas Wright.⁴⁶ A ship loaded with provisions was sent from the Eastern Shore to Boston. The Queen Anne's County Committee placed restrictions on the importing of goods from a ship unless authorized by inspection or by rules of the Continental Congress.⁴⁷

The presence of the British cruisers in the Chesapeake and the action of the Tories in Delaware and the lower Eastern Shore caused a general feeling of alarm to sweep over the people. There were disturbances of a local nature involving dissensions and divisions in families. Queen Anne's County, however, did not shirk her duty in furnishing troops, money, and supplies to the cause of freedom. A partial list of the outstanding men in Queen Anne's County includes:⁴⁸

William Paca—lawyer and signer of the Declaration

John Beale Bordley—jurist

Thomas Wright—first military commander of the county

William Hemsley—successor to Thomas Wright as commander and member of Continental Congress 1782-84

Turbutt Wright—repeatedly made chairman of the provincial convention of Maryland in 1776 and a member of Continental Congress 1782-84

Solomon Wright, James Hollyday, James Tilghman, Edward Tilghman, Richard T. Earle, John Brown, John Seney, and Joshua Seney—on local and state committees, conventions

William Carmichael—great uncle of Judge Richard B. Carmichael and a distinguished diplomat at courts of France, Spain, and Germany; member of Congress 1778-80

John Seney—member of the Maryland convention that ratified the Federal Constitution; member of the electoral college that voted for Washington in 1782; member of House of Delegates

In the winter of 1776, after war had been declared, Captain James Kent, the head of the militia of Queen Anne's County, received a request for services on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. Two companies of Queen Anne's and Kent County minutemen were ordered to march to the Northampton Court House. They arrived at Northampton on February 12th. Lord Dunmore, upon seeing how well protected and fortified this area was, retired to the Potomac.⁴⁹ The quick and successful mobilization of troops to this area had forestalled an attack and relieved suffering.

During the early stages of the war half of the military force of Queen Anne's County was placed on Kent Island at the mouth of the Chester River. They were under the command of Captain Edward Veazey. Gradually other companies reinforced the troops on Kent Island. Later Captain Veazey's independent company went to New Jersey to serve under General Washington. This caused Kent Island to be left unguarded so Captains Barnes and Elliott and their companies took command. Captain Dean's company, which was stationed on the island for a short time, was mustered into regular service under Washington around Philadelphia.⁵⁰

James Kent, now a colonel, was asked to command the *Defence* in the attempt to drive off the British cruisers from the Chesapeake Bay. Another frigate, the *Chester* was commanded by Captain Thomas Coursey of Queen Anne's. Colonel Kent resigned command of the Eastern Shore Battalion on August 16, 1776, and Colonel William Richardson of Caroline County succeeded him. They marched to New York and arrived in time to fight at Harlem Heights and around New York. The Queen Anne's Companies were commanded by John Dames and John Dean.⁵¹

In the Battle of Long Island, August 26, 1776, Captain Veazey's independent company had heavy losses.⁵² Additional companies were formed in Queen Anne's County. Warrants were issued by the Council of Safety to Richard Wilson and William Ridgaway to command companies. In 1777 two others were organized under the commands of Gideon Emory and William Stinson.⁵³

Representing Queen Anne's County at the Maryland Constitutional Convention of 1776 were: Turbutt Wright, James Kent, William Bruff, and Solomon Wright. Turbutt Wright was Chairman of the Convention during many of its debates. Delegates from the county served on committees and were active in debates.⁵⁴ They favored a clause in the State Constitution granting religious freedom to all and were opposed to the imposition of a general tax to support a specific religion. When the question of a possible separation of the Eastern Shore from the Western Shore was discussed, Turbutt Wright defended its legality if it should be achieved. The proposition was defeated, however.⁵⁵

Although other counties had a shortage of salt and munitions, Queen Anne's County was in a good position regarding both, although there was a shortage of beef and pork in the winter of 1777. This led to the well-known practice of hoarding. Consequently, stock was ordered seized with the aid of the County's Committee of Observation and the county militia if necessary.⁵⁶

The county was picked by the Governor and Council on May 16, 1777 to be the scene of the trials for all persons found guilty of Toryism on the Eastern Shore. Solomon Wright, Turbutt Wright, John Brown, and John Thompson, all of the county, were commissioned by the Governor and Council to sit as a court. Since the jail at Queenstown was not adequate for handling all the prisoners, some of them, being gentlemen and persons of wealth and prestige, were detained in Annapolis until the trial. Another group of prisoners, mostly from Worcester and Somerset, was tried for treason in Talbot County in the summer of 1778.⁵⁷

Queen Anne's was not without its own Tories, especially in the upper part of the county. The most notable was Edward Tilghman who was held under suspicion for visiting British-held Philadelphia without permission from the Governor and Council. Arrested, he was asked to give bond of £5000 and to appear at the next session of the Eastern Shore General Court. In the meantime he was restricted in travelling more than five miles from his home. Another case involved John

Tims who was arrested on March 20, 1779, convicted of treason, but later pardoned.⁵⁸

Queen Anne's County, along with the rest of the state, became considerably alarmed over a possible invasion by the large British fleet that moved up the Chesapeake with General Howe in charge of the land forces. All Eastern Shore counties were alerted. A military depot for Queen Anne's was located at the head of the Corsica River.⁵⁹ William Hemsley headed the county's forces.



Carvel House, Kent Island

During the winter of 1778 there was much dissatisfaction in the county over the law to draft militia men and its provisions allowing substitutes to be sent for those not wishing to serve. The sheriff was authorized to use the militia to arrest rioters. Offenders were to be fined.

In April of 1779 Colonel Hemsley received an order on the Eastern Shore Treasurer for £10,000 with which to purchase supplies for the Continental Army and to have wheat ground at his own mill, at Wye Mills, and at others nearby. When General Pulaski called for recruits in the spring of 1778 Queen Anne's County furnished men. William Garland led these men as they went to join General Washington in New Jersey.⁶⁰ Countians also fought bravely in other battles of the war.

In the latter days of the war when Washington met Cornwallis at Yorktown, the county furnished three hundred and fifty head of cattle. They were slaughtered, salted, and deposited for shipping at the head of Miles River in Talbot County. Charles Blake was the agent who secured these supplies.

After Cornwallis' surrender at Yorktown on November 19, 1781, the Chesapeake Bay area was still marauded by Tory and refugee groups. Judge Bordley's beautiful estate on Wye Island was pillaged. The plan to burn the house was foiled and many articles, some of great value, were later returned. In order to

protect themselves from such raids, some countians in 1782 equipped a barge and had twenty men cruise between Kent Island and Tilghman's Island. This boat was called the *Experiment*.

On April 22, 1783 when Governor William Paca issued a proclamation announcing that the peace treaty with England had been concluded, a great celebration was held in Queen Anne's County.⁶¹ The life of every citizen had been affected in some way. Churches and schools had been virtually at a standstill. Life in general was never the same as it had been before the struggle commenced.

The Revolution was the final blow to Queenstown's battle to remain the county seat. Shortly afterwards it was ordered that the courthouse and prison be sold, the money to be applied towards the purchase of four acres of land and the erection of new buildings at Centreville, the new site for the county seat. In 1782 James Hutchin's former store was selected as the temporary county seat. This general area was also called "Hibernia." The last meetings of the Court at these temporary headquarters was in April of 1794.⁶² But many difficulties were encountered with the new project. The land to be used was a part of a four-hundred acre plot called "Chesterfield," granted in 1670 to William Hemsley and in successive years owned by Ann Marshall, Solomon Clayton and William Sweatnam. The latter's daughter, Esther Banbury, leased a part of it in 1727 to Matthew Mason. Later it passed into the Nicholson family. A committee appointed in 1789⁶³ arranged a satisfactory agreement with Elizabeth Nicholson to purchase two acres of land from her estate. Acts of the Assembly were passed for the raising of additional funds. An Act of 1794 provided for a surveyor to lay out lots in not less than one-half acre dimensions. Allowance was made for streets, lanes, and alleys to be named by the commissioners. They were to be bounded by strong cedar or locust posts or stones. In 1796 a supplementary act provided for the erection of a markethouse and its renting and inspection. Wednesdays and Saturdays were to be market days. Penalties were placed on anyone caught interfering with the system of weights and measurements.⁶⁴

The jail was still unbuilt in 1798. Plans provided that the jailer was to have two apartments and a cellar. He was to be appointed by the sheriff and was prohibited from keeping an ordinary or house of entertainment at the jail. As Centreville progressed additional town officers were appointed, such as an official woodcorder. Geese and swine were not to be allowed to run at large in town.⁶⁵

Queen Anne's County has produced three governors, although the first, William Paca (governor, 1782-1785), was an adopted son. His wife, a Bordley, had inherited part of Wye Island.⁶⁶ The second governor from the county was Robert Wright, who had previously served as United States Senator. He was governor from 1806 to 1808. The third and last chief executive from Queen Anne's was William Grason who served from 1839 to 1842.⁶⁷ He was the first popularly elected governor of Maryland.

The War of 1812 affected the county in several ways. In addition to furnishing some of the State's leaders, the county made the usual preparations for an attack, and was the scene of one of the battles. As a Democratic stronghold, the county was not a passive witness to the rivalry between the Democrats and the Federalists over the rights of our ships on the high seas.⁶⁸

One of the first demonstrations in the War of 1812 involving Queen Anne's was the seizure of the Queenstown packet, *Jefferson*, near Baltimore on April 16, 1813.⁶⁹ Meanwhile recruiting was pushed in the county. Governor Levin Winder, a Federalist, was criticized bitterly at the time for not planning the defense

of Kent Island. There was scarcely any resistance when the British landed there on August 5, 1813.

There are two accounts by Americans of the "battle" of Queenstown which occurred on the night of August 13, 1813. One was written by Major William H. Nicholson, temporary commander of the County militia in the absence of Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Wright who was ill, and was the official report. The other, a less complete one, was a hastily written letter by Major Thomas Emory, in charge of cavalry, to the Editor of the *Easton Star*. The diaries of the British officers describing the battle are also available.⁷⁰

Major Nicholson, commanding the 38th Regiment of Militia, had 244 men stationed at Queenstown in case of attack. Also present were about 100 cavalrymen, commanded by Major Emory, and a company of 35 artillerymen with two six-pounders commanded by Captain Gustavus Wright. The forces totalled less than 400 men. The militia had been warned of the landing of British troops on Kent Island on August 5 and erected a Battery at the Narrows. On the night of the 13th word was received that the British were marching to Queenstown from Kent Island. The Militia was weakened by the absence of men sent to scout the Piney Neck area. Major Nicholson was determined to make a stand unless forced to retire, hoping that the enemy would not stay or penetrate farther inland.⁷¹

The British landed men from barges at the undefended Hall's Landing or "Blakeford" instead of at "Bolingly" as intended. They opened fire on the militiamen with rockets and round shot. Major Nicholson, receiving word of the naval support, feared a rear attack so ordered his artillery and infantry to retreat without firing.⁷² He then rushed on his horse to Slippery Hill where groundworks had been erected and where eighteen privates and two captains had been stationed only to discover that his orders not to fire had been disobeyed. Two shots had been fired, one before and one after the first British volley of fire. Realizing the strength of the enemy he ordered his men to retreat. The British lost two men and five were wounded. The horse of the British General, Sir Sydney Beckwith, had been shot from under him.⁷³ Even though the British plans of a landing site had miscarried they damaged the house and furniture at "Blakeford" and marched into Queenstown to hold the town for a few minutes, taking stores of bread and bacon and causing little destruction.⁷⁴

The local troops had retreated a mile and one-half above Queenstown. Nathan, a slave of Robert Gardner of Kent Island, was suspected of piloting the British to Queenstown. He was convicted on this charge but escaped from the jail at Centreville.⁷⁵

Meanwhile the residents of Centreville had thrown up a bold embankment, forty feet high, just below the town on the right side of the Corsica Creek on the property of William E. Rolph. The English came up the river and, deterred by the "fort," cast anchor and sent a crew ashore on the opposite side of the river to set up temporary headquarters in the brick home of William Emory. The enemy finally left without making contact.⁷⁶ Known as "Fort Point," this position has had supporters who would make it an historic shrine since it probably saved Centreville from attack.⁷⁷

The diaries of the British officers show a general disinterest among their leaders in carrying out these plunderings on the east side of the Chesapeake Bay. They were conducted as diversionary movements and for their nuisance value.⁷⁸

Some of Queen Anne's sons won fame for themselves in the War of 1812.

These included Major Jacob Hindman, United States Artillery, who fought at Burlington Heights and elsewhere, and Captain Benjamin Nicholson who fought on the Canadian frontier.⁷⁹

Queenstown, following the war, soon recovered its pre-war pace. It was the center of a small circle of aristocrats including the Hales, Masseys, Mitchells, Earles, Hindmans and Tilghmans. Much social activity and lavish entertainments took place at "Bolingly."⁸⁰ But disaster struck on November 11, 1820, when a large part of the village was destroyed by fire.⁸¹ Fire fighting equipment was lacking throughout the county. The first apparatus for Centreville was purchased in 1817. It consisted of two ladders and two firehooks. They were to be kept in the markethouse and supervised by the bailiff.⁸²

Queen Anne's County was decidedly a Democratic or Jeffersonian stronghold with Joshua Seney, Robert Wright, and Joseph Nicholson serving as its leaders. Among prominent Federalists in the county were William Carmichael and William Hemsley. From the close of the War of 1812 to the Civil War Queen Anne's County remained under the control of the Democrats.⁸³

The visit of Lafayette to the United States in 1824 caused much attention. Queen Anne's sent to wait upon him in Annapolis a committee of men who had served under him or who had known him.⁸⁴

The county in the 1850s witnessed a bitter battle between parties for supremacy. The Whigs, becoming disorganized around 1854, gave way to the Know Nothing party that was rapidly gaining strength in Maryland. Queen Anne's County as a slaveholding county was the scene of many meetings which aimed at preventing any interference with Negroes. The position of the General Conference of the Methodist Church against slavery caused a great deal of criticism. Meetings were held at Centreville plainly stating that the provisions did not apply locally. The possibility of raising militia to be ready for any Negro uprising was discussed.⁸⁶

In the 1860 election the county voted for Bell with the Breckinridge forces running a close second. The people were in favor of moderate measures in regard to the slavery question and secession and seemed to favor the preservation of the Union if at all possible, relying on some kind of peaceful settlement of sectional differences.⁸⁷

When the war broke out plans were made to set up recruiting stations. Queen Anne's, like other counties, was assigned a quota, but was slow in getting organized. When the State came under control of the Federal machine great resentment arose in the county. Many objections were lodged over the control of elections. There was sympathy for Judge Richard Bennett Carmichael, who was seized while on the bench in Talbot County and sent to prison because of pro-Southern views and actions.⁸⁸ There were other arrests of those with Southern leanings.

Centreville—Centreville is one of the prettiest villages on the Shore. The bustle of court week does not shake it out of its unhurried course. The courthouse possesses some Victorian alterations, one of which is an attractive iron balcony. It is now painted cream which appears as a welcome relief from the usual red.⁸⁹ Bordering the Courthouse on one side is Lawyer's Row while the other side boasts a hardware establishment and the Hotel.⁹⁰ The town has a weekly newspaper, a free library and a comparatively new high school building. Other points of interest include the town clock, the modern theatre, the armory, and the churches including St. Paul's Episcopal Church, two Methodist churches, a Catholic church

and one for Negroes. There is no country club but the Corsica River Yacht Club largely makes up for this deficiency. The residential section is characterized by large, comfortable, and for the most part unpretentious homes, set back from the street with no elaborate gardens.

Centreville was once handicapped by its lack of accessibility to other points, being itself waterlocked. But modern means of transportation have brought changes. This town boasts a flour mill, several canneries, a shirt factory, and other industries. Today it has a well-equipped water system and an excellent volunteer fire department. Earlier the town had two bad fires that destroyed many of the old homes. The County Commissioners, because of crowded conditions in the Courthouse, bought the Ford building in 1938 for additional office space and placed many bureaus and agencies there.⁹³ The County Agricultural and Health Departments have expanded greatly. The latter has won national honors for its work in the Negro Health program.⁹⁴

Church Hill—Centreville's neighboring town to the north, Church Hill, is another center for rural trade, and was built around St. Luke's Protestant Episcopal Church. The latter was erected in 1731 at a cost of 140,000 pounds as a parish church or chapel of ease to Old Chester Church which was located near Centreville.⁹⁵ The old church has many interesting architectural features and boasts two tablets reportedly presented by Queen Anne. The earliest records are traceable to 1700 for there was an earlier building on this site. The old frame Methodist meeting house was built on the banks of the South East Creek closer to the water than St. Luke's. Until the Episcopal church was remodelled from its almost complete state of disrepair in 1840-1841, the Methodists had the only place of worship. The number of Methodists grew steadily and they built a new church in 1857, turning the old building over to the Negroes. During the Civil War the Federal troops used it as a garrison.

Church Hill earlier had its tavern and later a hotel. At one time there was an enclosed commons that was supposed to be farmed or gardened by any who so desired. It also had its grist mill.⁹⁶ Today it has many stores, a bank, a modern theatre, a farm implement firm, an excellent dairy and a nearby hatchery. There is a fine public school. In the 1800s there was an academy that was characteristic of the era before public schools.

Sudlersville—Sudlersville was called Sudler's Cross Roads in 1795. Near it was St. Andrew's Chapel, of St. Luke's Parish. It was a frame building and later was replaced by another structure. The old Forge Mill was active in the early 1800s and Well's Warehouse and Dixon's tavern were well-known. Quantities of bog iron ore were found in this area. When the railroad reached Sudler's Cross Roads the name was changed to Sudlersville. It was incorporated in 1860 and grew to become an enterprising community. It received its Post Office in 1817, had its own academy,⁹⁷ and today has two churches, grain elevators, prosperous stores, a free public school, a frozen food locker, and a library.

Millington—Millington, located at the head of the Chester River, on the boundary line between Queen Anne's County and Kent, was in olden times called "Head-of-Chester." It seemed to grow from a woolen mill erected by the Malla-lieu brothers. This little town figured prominently in earlier discussions to construct a proposed canal across the peninsula. An academy was established at Millington in 1816, while it received its Post Office five years earlier, in 1811. Its tavern was called Pennington's. This town which was settled on both sides of the

river was a scene of a disastrous fire in 1818. The Reverend Christopher Spry headed a drive for funds to rebuild the town and proceeds were divided equally according to value lost.⁹⁸ Today the greater part of Millington is on the Kent County side of the river.

Smaller settlements of the county includes Ruthsburg, so-called since about 1880, which was formerly called "Cross Road at Henry Pratt's." It was named for a man who constructed a brick house near the road intersection. This home later became the County Almshouse. Beaver Dam, now the town of Ingleside, was first called Long Marsh. It sprang up around Cleave's Tavern and was also near the Beaver Dam Causeway that was drained in 1812 by a company of land proprietors. The Post Office was erected in 1837 and shortly afterwards the name was changed officially to Ingleside.⁹⁹

Since 1900 Queen Anne's County has made great strides. A quick glance at the industries and modern agricultural machinery and methods attest to this statement. The soil of the county is adaptable to the growing of many vegetables, fruits, grains, and dairy products. The versatility of the county was early demonstrated by an attempt to raise the Palmi Christi or castor bean plant for the manufacture of oil in 1835.¹⁰⁰ An even more spectacular venture was that of 1836 when a company was incorporated whose aim it was to establish a silk industry in the county. Plans were made for the purchase and cultivation of mulberry trees, the raising of silk worms, and the manufacture of silk. A farm was purchased, henceforth known as the "Mulberry Farm," on the south side of the Cor-sica River for this experiment.¹⁰¹ It was an absolute failure. Peaches and strawberries came to be grown in large quantities. At one time the Round Top Peach Farm was reputed the largest in the world. John Harris, the manager, had 1,000 acres in peaches or approximately 165,000 trees in 1875. Half of the fruit was canned on the spot and the rest shipped by railroad.¹⁰² Iron ore was found at the head of Hamilton and South East creeks which yielded 30-35% metal, which is very brittle. This source of metal has not been utilized to any great extent.

In order to better understand the agricultural history of the county it must be remembered that in the colonial period tobacco was the important crop as in other parts of the Eastern Shore. The entire monetary standard revolved around the price of this staple. But after the Revolution the market slumped and the evils of the one-crop system were quite obvious. The six public warehouses within the county were ordered sold by an Act of the General Assembly in 1794 and by 1807 all were reported sold. Henceforth each farmer was ordered to plant at least two acres of corn in addition to his tobacco. There was a fifty pound fine if this was not done. Before many years had passed a majority of the farmers of the county began raising wheat and corn. The era of "King Tobacco" was over. The Legislature passed acts favoring the growth and construction of mills.¹⁰³ There were several well-known mills—two at Chester Mill, one each at Centreville, Church Hill, and Wye Mills and some private ones such as Mount Mill or "Seth's Mill."

Queen Anne's County has been called the pioneer of the sheep raising industry in Maryland.¹⁰⁴ It gave rise to several cloth mills. Richard Gibbs brought in blooded Spanish Merino sheep. Several other farmers followed suit. Captain Jones, of Kennersley, said that with Merinos it was possible to obtain cloth at \$2.34 per yard. The processes of weaving and dyeing, he said, would provide constant employment to the poor of the neighborhood. William Sartain was weaving coverlids at Bryantown while at the head of Wye River carpets and

draperies were made. There were several tanyards: one near Centreville, one near Queenstown and the other at Sudlersville. The plant at Church Hill which manufactured cotton cloth in 1815 was reported to have four Walter Jones' patent domestic and factory looms and other machinery. In 1843 a foundry was operating at Ruthsburg where carriage equipment was made and repaired. Threshers, ploughs and castings were made there by David Klinefelter, proprietor. The attempt to establish a woolen mill near Centreville in 1849 failed despite the capital of \$30,000. Horse power as well as wind mills had to be used on Kent Island where they lacked the water power to grind wheat and corn.¹⁰⁵ Another early industry was brickmaking. On almost every farm there stands a depression or slight hole sunk in the land where clay was dug to make bricks for building purposes. Much wine of superior quality was made, although this was not an industry of first-scale importance. Men of Queen Anne's County helped to form the Maryland Agricultural Society as well as its Eastern Shore branch.¹⁰⁶

Business flourished greatly throughout the county, but particularly in Centreville. The Western Union Telegraph put up lines in 1876 while the telephone followed six years later.¹⁰⁷ Newspapers had been founded earlier. The first appeared in 1824, and was called the *Centreville Times and Eastern Shore Advertiser*. A Whig paper, it was under the editorship of John B. Spencer. Subsequent owners, James K. Harper and Samuel Sullivan, favored the Whig and American parties. In 1859 John H. Thompson bought it and it became a Republican journal, although supporting Bell in 1860.

The first Democratic organ in the county was the *Freedom's Sentinel*, founded in Centreville in 1839 by Henry Vanderford. A. H. Manderville came into ownership in 1842, changing the name to *The Queen Anne's Telescope*. He was succeeded in 1845 by J. H. Rowleson who called it *The Weekly Sentinel*. In September, 1846 it was *The Sentinel and Advertiser*. Ownership went to Thomas J. Keating in 1857 and he named the paper the *State's Rights Advocate and Maryland Sentinel*. Keating's office was burned and his press destroyed in 1864 because of his Southern views. The paper expired accordingly.

The Maryland Citizen, an independent paper, was first printed in 1860. Later becoming a Republican journal, it ceased publication in 1876. *The Centreville Observer* was the successor in business, though not in politics, of the old *Centreville Times*. William W. Busteed and Charles T. Loveday published the *Observer* first in 1864. In 1874 appeared the first number of the *Centreville Record*, published by R. G. Bordley and William W. Cheezum. The *Centreville Record* was changed to the *Queen Anne's Record* in 1933. Rivals for many years, the *Observer* and the *Record* merged in 1936.

Other newspapers published in the County have included the *Queenstown News*, *Crumpton Gazette*, *Church Hill Air Line*, and the *Church Hill News*.¹⁰⁸

After several unsuccessful attempts, the first bank for Queen Anne's County was opened in 1876 in Centreville.¹⁰⁹ Heretofore the county had to rely on the banks of Easton, Denton, Chestertown, Wilmington, or Baltimore for various financial transactions. In 1884 the Queen Anne's National Bank was opened. Today there are several other banks in the county.

An act of the Legislature in 1876 reincorporated both Centreville and Church Hill. The Courthouse was repaired and remodelled by J. Crawford Neckon of Baltimore. Earlier, in 1867, the jail had been rebuilt. As business prospered in Centreville and elsewhere, most wooden buildings were gradually replaced by

structures of brick in the business sections. Imported goods from England were sold in apothecary, millinery, dry-goods and even delicatessen stores.¹¹⁰ Lumber mills, and canneries sprang up almost overnight and soon were "fixtures" of the communities. Specialized trades flourished—wool and fur tailoring, cabinet-making, and others. Early physicians of the county had to be licensed by the Medical Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland, one of the first presidents of which was Dr. Robert Goldsborough, a native of Queen Anne's County.¹¹¹

Another sign of development was the growth of clubs and organizations. The Town Hall in Centreville was erected jointly by the St. Tammany Lodge I. O. O. F. and the town on the site of the old market house. Its auditorium seated three hundred persons. The Odd Fellows were organized as early as 1835, the Red Men by 1869, the Knights of Pythias in 1870 at Crumpton, and the colored Masonic Lodge emerged as a county unit. There was also a Polemic Society, a Young Men's Christian and Literary Association in Centreville. The first brass band was formed in 1867. During this same period a separate school building was built for girls.¹¹²

Transportation and communication have been major factors in the growth of the county. Sailing vessels and stage coaches were gradually replaced by carriages and power boats. Early roads usually led to the courthouse, to a church or a ferry.¹¹³ The first post or mail route was established in 1695 from the Potomac to Annapolis and on to Philadelphia. According to Fisher's *Gazetter of Maryland* part of this route was in Queen Anne's County. In 1713 as previously shown, the sheriff of the county was ordered responsible for conveying public letters and pacquets.¹¹⁴ The ferry was quite popular as it was a part of the route North. Often lotteries helped support ferries, roads, and bridges as well as schools and churches.¹¹⁵

Several schooner companies ran boats from several points in the county to Baltimore. They were replaced by the faster "packets" that also carried passengers. The *Jefferson* and the *Experiment* were two of the better known of these craft, the latter having been seized by the British in the War of 1812 near Baltimore with over thirty passengers on board. Mr. R. F. Jones owned the first sailing sloop, *Caroline*, which in 1813 carried passengers, horses and carriages from Annapolis to Broad Creek. The first steamboat appeared in 1817 and made two weekly trips to Baltimore, stopping at Centreville on its way up and down the Chester and its branches. Steamboats stopped also at Kent Island, Queenstown, Booker's Wharf, Rolphe's Wharf, Chestertown and Crumpton.¹¹⁶ In addition, each plantation had its own wharf from which cargoes of wheat, corn, tomatoes, fish, crabs and terrapin were shipped.

Before the Chester River at Chestertown and Kingstown was ready for use in 1802 people crossed in a scow operated by man power using a rope anchored on each shore.¹¹⁷ The Queen Anne's Railroad Company was completed in 1868. It also operated steamers from Baltimore to Queenstown which connected with railroads to Delaware and Rehoboth. This was a profitable experiment and the countians hoped it would put Queenstown on its feet again. Old "Bolingly" was converted into a hotel for those waiting train connections.¹¹⁸

Queen Anne's County early assumed responsibility of taking care of its poor and dependent persons. At first the poor, disorderly, insane, and infirm were placed under one shelter, managed by Trustees of the Poor who were appointed by the Assembly. After several changes of location the Trustees secured the home of Henry Pratt at Ruthsburg for an almshouse. An enlightened program

was followed with persons separated according to classification. The Trustees were conscientious in their work, making regular inspections to assure proper maintenance of the house and grounds. They served voluntarily without pay. A farm was cultivated to supplement the fare of the inmates.¹¹⁹ Generally speaking, the county maintained a high standard in this activity. Today this service is performed by various agencies including Children's Aid and the Juvenile Court and several state-sponsored boards.



Living Room, Shippen Creek Farmhouse, Kent Island

The county has attempted to educate her youth well. In 1724, near Queens-town, on a tract called "Forlorn Hope" the first free school in the county was built. It was established under the famous school law of 1723 that provided for one school in each county to be governed by seven visitors. The first Board of Visitors consisted of: Reverend Christopher Wilkenson, Philemon Lloyd, Richard Tilghman, James Earle, Sr., William Turbutt, Augustine Thompson, and Edward Wright. These gentlemen purchased one hundred acres from Mr. Tilghman for forty pounds, on April 22, 1725. Built by John Salisbury, it was 35 x 20 feet, of brick, and with several windows and a fireplace in one end. The school continued to serve the county until 1791 when a scarcity of pupils caused it to be closed. Other problems were the difficulty in securing masters and the failure to receive appropriations from the General Assembly.¹²⁰ Luther Martin, famous lawyer and Maryland figure, was at one time a master at this school.¹²¹ After 1800 academies were established in several towns in the county. Those for ladies were sometimes called finishing schools. Competition was keen among them; at one time ten in Centreville were advertising for scholars.¹²² They were replaced by the public school system.¹²³

Churches have also been a powerful force in molding the history of the county. Queen Anne's earliest church was St. Paul's Parish on Kent Island,

established in 1640, two years after Maryland had been divided into parishes and registrars had been appointed. The old building is not standing today. On the mainland was "Old Chester Church" near Centreville and its two chapels—both named St. Luke's—at Church Hill and Wye Mills. These churches were the earliest to be built on the Eastern Shore, dating from 1670 to 1700. Vestry records show expense accounts for their construction and the paying of ministers in tobacco. Reverend Christopher Wilkenson was made Commissary of the Shore by the Bishop of London in 1721. As the years passed each chapel became a parish.¹²⁴ The Old Chester Church was torn down and a new edifice using its bricks was constructed in Centreville, opening in 1834. Old Wye Church was restored just recently through the generosity of Mr. Arthur C. Houghton. It was publicly opened and re-dedicated in 1949 and shines as a tribute to its illustrious history.¹²⁵

Queen Anne's County also became one of the first strongholds of Methodism in the United States, although its first ministers were subjected to severe tests, several being tarred and feathered. Two factors helped the Methodists: the blow that the Revolution gave Anglican churches, and the identification of the Anglican church with England and royal government. The first preachers were circuit riders who traveled on horseback. Thomas Asbury and others were frequent visitors to the county. The Dudley charge at Sudlersville was active as early as 1783 (Dr. Coke spoke there) and maintained a minister from 1794. Other churches were formed in the towns and at Spaniard's Neck, Hall's Cross Roads, and on Kent Island. Queen Anne became a separate circuit from Kent in 1802. During the Civil War a few of the churches severed their relations with the General Conference over slavery and were known as Methodist Episcopal South.¹²⁶

A group of Presbyterians formed a congregation at Church Hill with Reverend Thomas S. Dewing as pastor in 1810. This church had several ties with Francis Makemie, the founder of Presbyterianism on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia.

The county was the scene of many camp meetings, the first of which was held in 1818 at Wye. The Catholics are said to have had an early Jesuit church on Kent Island and one of the first on the Shore in Queenstown.¹²⁷ Other faiths represented in the county today include Seventh Day Adventists, Church of God, Quakers, and Methodist and Baptist churches for the Negroes.

People of Queen Anne's County have always known how to enjoy their leisure moments. Fox hunting, a county first, was a popular means of amusement in the plantation days for the wealthy class.¹²⁸ Cockfighting and horseracing were also quite popular. Sam Wren, an expert in cock-fighting, stayed in Queenstown to defy the British in 1813. Another trained sportsman in this art was Samuel Chaplain. Queen Anne's aristocrats took pleasure in breeding horses and also in laying out race tracks. The Queen Anne's Association became the Eastern Shore Jockey Club and later the United States Jockey Club.¹²⁹

Dancing has always been popular in Queen Anne's with a ball room in every town. Young ladies were taught to dance at finishing schools. Balls were also held in private homes and were the highlight of the social season, especially on holidays and after fox hunts or horse races. The theatre was slow in coming to the Shore. Often players would come to Easton or Centreville to stage a play, but not with any regularity. The same applied to musicians. Frequent steamers to Baltimore remedied this deficiency somewhat. Nowadays the automobile, the moving picture, radio and television take the place of other forms of entertainment.

The tavern which formerly played so great a part in social life has changed aspects. The earliest tavern in the county was that of Anthony Workman at Broad Creek on Kent Island. Records show that occasionally even sessions of court were held in taverns or ordinaries as they were also called.¹³⁰

Though only a listing can be made here, Queen Anne's County possesses a large number of old and distinguished homes as well as many of later construction. Prominent among them are "Readbourne," the Hollyday homestead for many generations and dating from about 1731; "Bloomfield," built not later than 1760 by William Young Bourke and for years associated with the Emory family; "Mel-field," for several generations a home of the Earle family, antedating the Revolution; "Walnut Grove," probably the oldest house in the county, having been built between 1681 and 1685, the home of the Wright family; "The Hermitage," home of the Tilghmans for generations and one of the foremost show-places of the County; "Blakeford," ancestral home of the DeCourcy family and later owned by the Wright family; "Wye Plantation," built in 1741 and for many years associated with the Tilghmans and Pacas, now owned by Arthur C. Houghton who is contributing greatly to the preservation of old Queen Anne's County history; "Sled-mor," built in 1713, the Sudler homestead near Sudlersville; "Wye House," the old home of the Lloyd family; "Bloomingdale," one of the finest brick colonial residences in the county, patented by Robert Morris, for years the home of the Seth family and then of the Harris family; "Bolingly," at Queenstown; "Kennersley," near Church Hill; "Pioneer Point" (formerly "Winton") owned by the Raskob family; "Old Point," on Kent Island, built in 1722; "Reed's Creek," built in 1775; and many others.¹³¹

NOTES, CHAPTER I

1. Queen Anne's Chamber of Commerce *Bulletin*. Centreville, Md.
2. Has 348 miles. Swepson Earle, ed., *Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore* (Baltimore, 1916), p. 112.
3. Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, *Maryland Gardens and Homes* (comp. by E. F. Clapp, C. M. Gillet and R. McI. Randall) (Baltimore, 1938).
4. Emily Emerson Lantz, *The Spirit of Maryland* (Baltimore, 1929), p. 221.
5. *Centreville Observer*. "Fifteenth Anniversary and Historical Edition," Saturday, June 20, 1914.
6. Lawrence C. Wroth, "Sixty Years of the Church of England in America," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XI (1916), p. 2.
7. A copy of these letters is in the Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore. Mr. Thom and Dr. Steiner uncovered many old records and even some buildings on Kent Island. Mr. Thom in his address on the anniversary of "Old Wye Church" in October, 1908, mentioned the early church on Kent Island.
8. William Hand Browne, *Maryland, The History of a Palatinate* (Boston, Houghton Mifflin Co., 1904), p. 28.
9. George A (dolphus) Hanson, *Old Kent*. Republished from original in *Chestertown Transcript* of 1875 and 1876. (Chestertown, R. H. Collins and Sons, 1936), pp. 6-7.
10. "Early Manors—an Edited List," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XXIX (1933), 165.
11. William Henry Babcock, *Kent Fort Manor* (Philadelphia, Henry T. Coates and Co., 1903).
12. Hulbert Footner, *Maryland Main and the Eastern Shore*. (New York, D. Appleton Century, 1942), p. 228.

13. Swepson Earle, *Chesapeake Bay Country*. (Baltimore, Thomas-Ellis Co., 1934—4th ed. rev.), p. 344.
14. *Centreville Observer*, June 20, 1914.
15. *Ibid.*, Consult Bernard C. Steiner, "Kent County and Kent Island," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, VIII (1913), 1-13.
16. *Ibid.*, p. 15.
17. Lantz, *op. cit.*, p. 219.
18. He was Nicholas Hanson, *op. cit.*, p. 4. See John V. McMahon, *An Historical Review of the Government of Maryland*, p. 8 and Herring's *Statutes at Large of Virginia, 1610-1666*, p. 154.
19. Frederic Emory, *Queen Anne's County: Its Early History and Development*. A series of sketches based on original research published in the *Centreville Observer* in 1886. Copied from originals (scrapbooks) in possession of Mr. Charles A. Busteed and the Maryland Historical Society at the Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, 1936, p. 23. Since this Chapter on Queen Anne's County was written, this history has been published in book form by the Maryland Historical Society, through the generosity of Mr. Arthur C. Houghton and the great help of Miss Matilda B. Keating, Librarian of the Queen Anne's County Free Library. (Frederic Emory, *Queen Anne's County, Maryland: Its Early History and Development*. Baltimore, The Maryland Historical Society, 1950). All references in this Chapter are to the manuscript form of Emory's work. Another reason for influence of Spanish nomenclature is found in Scharf, *History of Maryland*.
20. John Leeds Bozman, *History of Maryland*, I, p. 115 (Baltimore, 1837).
21. This manuscript is in possession of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Easton. Now deposited in the vault of Talbot County Free Library, Easton, Md.
22. Emory, *op. cit.*, pp. 24-26.
23. *Ibid.*, p. 25.
24. *Ibid.*, pp. 32-35.
25. Lantz, *op. cit.*, pp. 220-221.
26. *Centreville Observer*, *op. cit.*, p. 11.
27. For more information see Hanson, *Old Kent*. For a summary of this early county seat see Robert L. Swain, Jr., "New Yarmouth, a Town of a Vanished Era—1675-1697," *Washington College Bulletin*, XV (May, 1937).
28. The Kent delegates were: William Frisby, Elias King, and James Wells, and Thomas Smith, Speaker. The Talbot group consisted of Colonel Thomas Smithson, Robert Goldsborough, Henry Coursey, and Nicholas Lowe. Emory, *op. cit.*, p. 72.
29. *Ibid.*, pp. 74-75.
30. "Story of Old Queenstown," *Centreville Record*, March 1, 1913.
31. Reverend C. Croft Williams, "Looking Back on Old Queenstown," *Queen Anne's Record-Observer*, December 9, 1937. The *Centreville Observer*, June 20, 1914, said that the General Assembly's act in 1710 continuing the county-seat at Queenstown implies that there was some doubt as to the legality of the previous act.
32. Williams, *op. cit.*
33. "Country Sketches," *Centreville Observer*, January 14, 1870.
34. "Story of Old Queenstown," *Centreville Record*, March 1, 1913.
35. *Ibid.*
36. *Ibid.*
37. Lantz, *op. cit.*, p. 222. Emory, *op. cit.*, p. 42.
38. *Centreville Observer*, June 20, 1914.
39. *Ibid.*, p. 11.
40. Hanson, *Old Kent*, p. 321.
41. Emory, *op. cit.*, pp. 218-220.
42. *Ibid.*, p. 221.
43. *Ibid.*, p. 186.
44. *Centreville Record*, March, 1, 1913.

45. Emory, *op. cit.*, p. 187. For a sketch of his life see Scharf, *History of Maryland*, II, p. 80 and also Robert Wilson's article "Wye Island," *Lippincott's Magazine*, XIX (1877), pp. 466-474.

46. Emory, *op. cit.*, pp. 188-191.

47. *Force's Archives*, Vol. II, 1024 (June 18, 1775). Quoted in Emory.

48. Emory, *op. cit.*, pp. 185-186. The military spirit in Queen Anne's County was unusually strong. See Records of the Provincial Council of Safety and the Governor's Council.

49. *Ibid.*, pp. 194-199.

50. The Council requested the Queen Anne's Committees to provide barracks for Captain Dean's men. James Tilghman was to receive 300 pounds with which to buy or secure fire arms. One hundred pounds was for purchasing blankets. All cattle unless needed for tillage were taken to safer places. Emory, *op. cit.*, p. 202.

51. *Ibid.*, p. 203.

52. See *Force's Archives*, Vol. II, p. 195; Washington Irving's *Life of Washington*, II, 318, or James McSherry, *History of Maryland* (Baltimore, 1904), pp. 169ff. Quoted in Emory.

53. Emory, *op. cit.*, p. 204. Also see Edward S. Delaplaine, ed., "Life of Thomas Johnson," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XVII (1922), pp. 244-45.

54. A. S. Goldsborough, "Prominent Queen Anne's County Citizens at the Dawn of the Revolution," *Patriotic Marylander*, III (March, 1917), 165. See Constitution of Maryland of 1776.

55. Emory, *op. cit.*, p. 205. See Section in general narrative by James C. Mullikin.

56. *Ibid.*, p. 207.

57. *Ibid.*

58. *Ibid.*, p. 208.

59. More information in Letter to Matthew Tilghman and Robert Goldsborough from Governor and Council, August 31, 1777. *Ibid.*, p. 209.

60. Of Maryland's quota of 2,902 Queen Anne's number was 145; Kent, 128; Caroline, 108; Talbot, 105. *Ibid.*, pp. 210-12.

61. This brief account of Queen Anne's part in the American Revolution is far from complete. Below is a list of valuable sources concerning the county's part in the struggle for independence. Emory, *op. cit.*

Brumbaugh, Gaius Marcus, *Maryland Records*, II, Lancaster, Pa., 1928. (Census in 1776).

Dennis, Judge Samuel K., "Eastern Shore Personages," published in *Eastern Shore Society of Baltimore City Bulletin* No. 4 (1939-1943), pp. 11-60.

Maryland's Rent Rolls, Vol. XIX (1924); *Maryland Historical Magazine* (Kent Island and the county); Bowie, Lucy Leigh, "Rev. John Bowie, Tory," *Maryland Historical Magazine* XXXVIII (1943), 149.

Queen Anne's County Debt Book, copied and indexed by Miss Lucy H. Harrison, *Maryland Historical Magazine* XXVI (1939), 74.

62. Emory, *op. cit.*, p. 228.

63. *Ibid.*, pp. 228-229. The members were: Richard Tilghman, Henry Pratt, Robert Walters, Samuel Earle, and Solomon Clayton. The former contract with Elizabeth Nicholson was declared null and void.

64. *Ibid.*, pp. 230-231.

65. *Ibid.*, p. 233.

66. A novel has been written by William Henry Babcock called *The Tower of Wye* (Philadelphia, Henry T. Coates Co., 1901).

67. Lantz, *op. cit.*, p. 225.

68. Emory, *op. cit.*, p. 299 and p. 301. Each county had a meeting preferably on the fourth of July. These meetings were held at Centreville, Church Hill, Millington and Beaver Dam Causeway. Robert Wright beat Samuel Thomas, of Talbot, for the

seat in the House of Representatives in 1812. Tributes to his record in Congress were made. One was in *Easton Star*, July 29, 1812.

69. *Ibid.*, p. 302. Captain Bateman, Mr. Paca and son, and other persons escaped in a small boat. The other passengers were kept overnight and taken home by Mr. Kersey Harrison in an old sloop named *Emalina*. The packet belonged to John Meredith and William Bromwell of Easton.

70. For the British view see Decourcy Wright Thom, "British Invasion of Queen Anne's County," *Patriotic Marylander*, II (September, 1914), p. 55.

71. Major Nicholson's report in Emory, *op. cit.*, p. 304.

72. Major Emory's account in *Easton Star*. Emory, *op. cit.*, p. 304.

73. Major Nicholson's report. Emory, *op. cit.*, p. 305.

74. Emory account. Emory, *op. cit.*, p. 304.

75. Nicholson report. Emory, *op. cit.*, p. 306.

76. *Centreville Observer*, June 20, 1914.

77. Miss Ella S. Roberts, Historian of the Major Samuel Turbutt Wright Chapter N. S. D. A. R., "Historical Spots in County Noted at D. A. R. Meeting." *Queen Anne's Record-Observer*, March 9, 1948.

78. For a more detailed account of the British strategy and general lack of organization see Thom article in *Patriotic Marylander*. Also see Sir W. Napier, *Life of General Sir Charles Napier*, I, 215-216. Quoted in Emory.

79. Emory, *op. cit.*, p. 309.

80. *Queen Anne's Record-Observer*, Dec. 9, 1937.

81. *Nile's (Weekly) Register*, XIX, 176. November 18, 1820. Quoted in Emory, *op. cit.*

82. Emory, *op. cit.*, p. 237.

83. *Ibid.*, p. 312. Charges of fraud and corruption were imposed on Federalists who were accused of importing voters. Religion and politics were closely united as is evidenced by plea of a minister. See Allen MSS. Vol. II, p. 378.

84. *Easton Star* of January 11, 1825. The committee included the Hon. Robert Wright, Col. Thomas Emory, Philemon B. Hooper and Peregrine Wilmer. Lafayette remembered Carmichael, the diplomat who was the first to receive news of the French patriot agreement to help the Americans. Quoted by Emory, *op. cit.*, pp. 318-319.

86. *Ibid.* More information on this period found in Emory, *op. cit.*, pp. 341-359.

87. *Ibid.*, pp. 360-361.

88. *Ibid.*, pp. 359-365.

89. Footner, *Maryland Main and the Eastern Shore*, p. 229.

90. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 371.

93. *Baltimore Sun*, September 30, 1938 and November 24, 1938.

94. See booklet entitled "A General Review of Health Conditions and Needs in Kent and Queen Anne's Counties" (printed for the General Federation of Women's Clubs, Department of Public Welfare, by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, 1930).

95. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 370.

96. *Centreville Observer*, March 20, 1880.

97. Emory, *op. cit.*, pp. 224, 227.

98. *Ibid.*, pp. 224-226.

99. *Ibid.*, pp. 226-227.

100. *Ibid.*, pp. 6-7.

101. *Centreville Observer* (50th Anniversary issue), p. 13.

102. Emory, *op. cit.*, p. 404.

103. *Ibid.*, pp. 12-15, 18.

104. Lantz, *op. cit.*, p. 229.

105. Emory, *op. cit.*, pp. 273-275.

106. John Beale Bordley and Richard Carmichael. Emory, *op. cit.*, pp. 279-280.

107. *Ibid.*, p. 398.

108. *Ibid.*, pp. 398-401.
109. *Ibid.*, pp. 401-402.
110. Williams, *op. cit.*
111. Emory, *op. cit.*, pp. 294-297.
112. *Ibid.*, pp. 405-407.
113. Emory, *op. cit.*, pp. 40-46, 275-277, etc.
114. *Ibid.*, pp. 40-41.
115. *Ibid.*, pp. 41-42.
116. W. Walker, *Queen Anne's County Commerce on the Chester River Between 1812-1865*.
117. *Ibid.*
118. *Centreville Record*, March 15, 1913.
119. Emory, *op. cit.*, pp. 175-185. See also Brown scrapbooks, Centreville Library.
120. Edwin H. Brown, "First Free School in Queen Anne's County," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, VI (1911), p. 1.
121. Martin was accused of too heavy drinking and of too much attention devoted to a daughter of a prominent planter. *Ibid.*, p. 10. See Emory, *op. cit.*, pp. 166-177.
122. *Ibid.*, pp. 292-293.
123. *Baltimore Sun*, March 26, 1940; *Evening Sun*, March 17, 1941, for the new Sudlersville High School.
124. Lantz, *op. cit.*, pp. 22, 27; Emory, *op. cit.*, pp. 90-166; Percy G. Skirven, *The First Parishes of the Provinces of Maryland* (Baltimore, 1923), pp. 106-108, 114-115, 143-144; DeCourcy W. Thom's two addresses on the History of Old Wye Church at Wye Mills; William Cross Crane, *Old Chester and Old Wye Churches—An Historical Sketch of St. Paul's Parish in the Counties of Queen Anne's and Talbot*—preached in St. Paul's Church, Centreville, August 5, 1855, and printed by J. Robinson, 11 pp; Rev. W. G. Davenport, *A Brief Sketch of the History of St. Luke's Church, Church Hill, Md.* (published by Centreville Observer, 1881), 10 pp.
125. Elizabeth Merritt, *Old Wye Church, Talbot County, Maryland, 1694-1949* (Maryland Historical Society, 1949), 42 pp.
126. Emory, *op. cit.*, pp. 159-166.
127. *Ibid.*, p. 440.
128. Emory, *op. cit.*, pp. 45, 283, 286, 288; Wilstach, *Tidewater Maryland*, p. 94.
129. *Ibid.*, pp. 285-286.
130. *Ibid.*, pp. 286-288.
131. See Earle, *Chesapeake Bay Country*; Earle, *Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore*; Footner, *Maryland Main and the Eastern Shore*; Hill, *Chesapeake Cruise*; Lantz, *Free Spirit of Maryland*; Scarborough, *Homes of the Cavaliers*; Vollandigham, *Delaware and the Eastern Shore*; Wilstach, *Tidewater Maryland*.

CHAPTER LI

*Worcester County**

Worcester County, the only Shore County of Maryland on the Atlantic Ocean, was the last county to be settled in considerable numbers, although Caroline and Wicomico followed in point of date. Pioneers from Accomack and direct from England probably made the earliest settlements in what is now Worcester County, arriving around 1658.¹ Fugitive Acadians followed nearly a hundred years later, but population had not reached 12,000 in 1790. From that time onward, however, population increased more rapidly.

The county has passed through several radical changes in territory. The first county erected on the site of Worcester was created in 1669 by the Council of Maryland on order of the Proprietor. The limits of this county were the Hore kill (Whorekill) or Lewes Creek near Lewes, Delaware, and Mount Scarborough. His Lordship's instructions at the same time called for the erection of Durham County to the north.² In 1672 Lord Baltimore through his Governor erected a Worcester County which included not only the unnamed county of 1669 but Durham County as well, taking in territory to the 40th degree of North Latitude. It included practically all of the territory under dispute between Baltimore and the Duke of York (William Penn not yet having been granted the land). But by the decision of the English Privy Council in 1685 the territory of old Worcester County that is now in Delaware was decreed to belong to the King and thus it officially ceased to be a portion of Maryland. Charles, Third Lord Baltimore, and his successors resisted this arrangement, however, and it was not until 1750, eight years after the erection of the present Worcester County (less that portion that went to Wicomico in 1867), that the north-western part of the county was transferred to Delaware under whose jurisdiction it has remained.³

The land included in the southern part of this area, established as Worcester County in June, 1672, was taken from the seaboard side of Somerset County as then constituted. Today it would be included in Sussex County, Delaware. The area included in the counties of Durham and Worcester later became New Castle, Kent, and Sussex counties—today's Delaware. Officers appointed for Worcester County in 1672 were Somerset County men. Many of the settlers in the newly erected county also came from Somerset. The Somerset Court had jurisdiction over this section south of the Whorekill until 1742. Jurisdiction over a considerable part of what is now Sussex County, Delaware, then went to Worcester County, remaining so until 1767 when the boundary line was finally settled between Maryland and Delaware.⁴

* For much of the material in this chapter the Editor is indebted to Miss Carolyn Louise Hancock of Stockton, Worcester County, Maryland. Miss Hancock, an honor graduate of Washington College, is at present on the faculty of the Snow Hill High School.

The Legislature of 1742 passed an Act upon the petition of certain inhabitants of Somerset County which resulted in the erection of a new county out of the eastern part of Somerset County, calling the same Worcester. The line of division through Somerset forming the western boundary of Worcester, according to the law, was as follows: “. . . up the Westernmost Side of the said [Dividing Creek] and to the Bridges called Denstone's Bridges [on the road from Snow Hill to Princess Anne], and from thence west to the main road called Parahawkin-Road; thence up and with the said road to John Caldwell, senior's, saw-mill [Salisbury?] thence up and with the said road over Cox's Branch, to Broad Creek Bridge [at Laurel, Delaware].”⁵

No additional change was made in the confines or territory of Worcester County until 1867 when Wicomico County was created out of the western portion of Worcester and the northern portion of Somerset counties. The new Constitution of that year gave Wicomico territory lying west of a line beginning at “Meadow Bridge, on the road, dividing the counties of Somerset and Worcester, near the southwest corner of farm of William P. Morris, thence [running] due east to the Pocomoke River, thence with the channel of said river to the beginning. . . . [at the point where Mason and Dixon's lines crosses the channel of Pocomoke River].”⁶

It is interesting to note that the east-west boundary line between Somerset and Worcester counties from 1742 to 1867 followed the present Division Street of Salisbury.⁷

Worcester County was formally organized at the house of David Murry in Snow Hill Town, December 11, 1742, by virtue of a commission from Lord Baltimore dated December 10, 1742. Commissioners or justices of the peace were John Henry, John Scott, William Lane, Samuel Hopkins, John Miller, John Scarborough, John Kilby and William Burton. Robert King, Jr., became clerk and Edmund Hough, underclerk.⁸

It is doubtful just what procedure was followed toward organizing the Worcester County created in 1742. No records of proceedings have been so far discovered. It is a matter of record, however, that on June 19, 1672, the Maryland authorities commissioned Henry Smith, Francis Jenckins, Thomas Jones, John Winder, Thomas Walker, Alexander Draper and Richard Whitty, gentlemen, to be his Lordship's commissioners and justices of the peace for Worcester County in the province of Maryland. Smith, Jenckins, Jones, and Winder were named as judges of the said court (in the absence of a member of his Lordship's Council). Smith and Jenckins, after taking the oath of office, were directed to administer the same to the other justices.⁹ On June 20, 1672, Jenckins was commissioned to take proof of rights of those persons desiring land in Worcester and to grant warrants of survey therefor.¹⁰ On the same date the governor of Maryland commissioned Thomas Jones to be “Captain under me of all the forces horse and foot that are or shall be in the said county of Worcester.”¹¹ On July 12, 1672, Thomas Jones, one of the justices for Worcester County, was authorized to appoint and depute some proper person to be clerk for the county. On the day before, in anticipation apparently of some trouble, Captain Paul Marsh was commissioned to raise a party of men as desired by Captain Thomas Jones to be sent into the county to subdue its enemies. No account of action to carry out the assignment is available. One June 10, 1792, Daniel Brown was commissioned high constable of Worcester County.¹²

The first white man to set foot in what is now Worcester County was

Giovanni da Verrazano (or Verrazzanno), a Florentine sailing for the King of France. He made a landing in 1524 on the banks of Chincoteague Bay as his ship, the *Dauphine*, lay anchored inside the Bay. With his company of about fifty men he explored eight miles inland until the swampy lands of the upper Pocomoke River turned them back. Verrazano learned something about the Indians of the area, recording his knowledge.¹³

Henry Norwood, a Cavalier, was another white man to visit the area prior to the erection of a county. With a party he was shipwrecked off the Eastern Shore of Virginia in 1650 while on a voyage from England to Virginia. He explored up into what later (1666) became Somerset County, Maryland, and still later (1742) Worcester County.¹⁶

In the late seventeenth century and thereafter for some years, the barrier of sands, salt marshes, dunes and hummocks between the Atlantic Ocean and the sounds or bay now variously called Chincoteague, Sinepuxent, Isle of Wight and Assawoman, from Fenwick's Island down to Chincoteague Inlet in Virginia, was known as Assateague, Assateague Beach, or Assateague Island.¹⁴ White men were attracted to this shore area and are known to have been living on Assateague Island as early as 1711. They were drawn by such industries and attractions as fishing, collecting driftwood and ships' timber, dismantling wrecked ships, salt-making, and pasturage for cattle and horses. "The Chincoteague pony of Assateague Island is probably a stunted descendant of horses which were turned loose on that island upwards of two hundred years ago."¹⁵ Among minor occupations and interests was the collection of sea birds' eggs in season on two sandy islands off the South Point of Sinepuxent Neck, but near to the beach, known as Great Egg Beach and Little Egg Beach, and otherwise called Great and Little Egging beaches. In the 1890s these beaches were the goal of annual picnics organized on the mainland. The eggs were used to supplement the diet of the members of the old beach communities.¹⁷

Salt-making in this area has an obscure history, but it is reasonable to believe that the Indians of Maryland made salt from the sea. It is known that by 1630 a salt-works was in operation at "Accomack" in Virginia, but even though there was a great need for salt in early Maryland, actual records of salt-works do not exist until after the Colonial period. As late as 1852 there were salt-works on Chincoteague Inlet, at the southernmost end of Assateague Island. Salt-works at Sinepuxent Inlet doubtless came into being during the Revolution. Operated by the Baltimore Salt Company, they were situated on the beach due east of Lumber Marsh.¹⁸

More spectacular was the salvaging of wrecked ships, the extent of which cannot be determined from fragmentary records. A Spanish ship, *The Greyhound*, ran aground just north of the Virginia line on Assateague Island. People from both Maryland and Virginia cut up her decks and carried away everything of value, including a cargo of mahogany which was taken to Snow Hill and sold to a local merchant.¹⁹ Although Virginia put a stop to such seaside looting as early as 1782, Maryland did not follow until 1799, when the Assembly passed an act for appointing a wreck-master in Worcester County. Virginians had complained of Marylanders who continued to raid ships after the former were checked by the Commissioner of Wrecks in 1782. They claimed that the island people were the confederates of mainlanders, notifying them instantly of shipwrecks. The wreck-master of Worcester County was empowered to command constables to press the necessary number of men into service to prevent vessels being em-

bezzled and stolen to the great injury of owners and insurers. In addition, he could demand assistance of vessels riding in the vicinity of the disaster, under forfeit of £100. Persons found stealing pumps or other articles, the loss of which might contribute to a shipwreck, were subject to death without benefit of clergy. Order thus came to the Maryland seacoast. People living among, or adjacent to, the sand banks of the coast were known as "bankers."²⁰

Maryland's seacoast today has a great importance not only to the State but to Worcester County as a seashore resort. This will be discussed later.

Sinepuxent Inlet was early regarded as a possible means of trade between Philadelphia and the Maryland seaboard plantations. In fact, the first recorded mention of Sinepuxent Bay in 1698 was in connection with a report to the Governor of Pennsylvania that Lewes (Delaware) had been plundered by a sloop that had come out of "Cinnepuxon Inlett."²¹ Nearly half a century later, in 1744, inhabitants of upper Worcester County sought to have towns erected at Sinepuxent Inlet and Indian River, respectively. Regarding the inlet, the main object seemed to be to "repel any enemy's landing on the sea-side of the county."²² When the Revolution came the use of Sinepuxent Sound was again apparent. Cumberland Dugan, well-known Baltimore merchant, seeking approval of the Maryland Council to ship a quantity of corn from Boston to Baltimore, explained that in case the Chesapeake was blocked by British ships, the brig laden with corn could put in at "Chincoteague, Sinnexpuxent, or some other inlet there."²³ In 1778 Sinepuxent Inlet was fortified and manned by a company of local militia. Two years later the Maryland Council directed the Justices of Worcester County to ship certain stores of corn requisitioned in the County to the Quartermaster General at Trenton, through Sinepuxent Inlet.²⁴ But, by 1819, Sinepuxent Inlet, had ceased to be of use. Violent storms and north-easters, opening and closing the Inlet and changing the channel in the Sound, precluded Maryland having an ocean seaport.²⁵

Born only a few years before the American Revolution, Worcester County developed normally as the English and French fought each other for supremacy in North America. In 1760 when the great Boston fire was recorded, Worcester County like other Maryland counties contributed to the stricken city. Seemingly a small contribution, at £73 4s. 6d., it was in fact a generous one when the resources of the County in 1760 are considered. Much more important events were shaping up. In 1774 Worcester County raised the sum of £533 to aid Massachusetts at a time when that Colony was resisting the Mother Country's tax laws. Following the outbreak of war, a great mass meeting was held on June 7, 1775, at Snow Hill, at which a set of resolutions was adopted pledging that the people "will from time to time, as often as it shall be found necessary, contribute cheerfully for the support and relief of our brethren in Massachusetts, now actually experiencing the fullest extent of ministerial vengeance and tyranny, and groaning under the horrors of war in the defense of their and our common rights."²⁶

More than words and generous help are necessary to win a war, however, and Worcester County had many who were anxious to make any sacrifice necessary. There was no unanimity in support of the independence movement, though, for it has been seen that Worcester possessed many "Tories" loyal to the British Crown.²⁷ On July 26, 1775, about sixty leading citizens of the County met at Snow Hill and signed the Association of the Freemen in Maryland. This was a brave action, particularly in Worcester County. Governor Eden, last royal governor of Maryland, received much satisfaction from the fact that General

Smallwood, with 500 men and a company of artillery, had been sent to the lower peninsula to reduce the "Tories" to obedience.

Worcester County was represented by several fighting units and other volunteers. The Sinepuxent Battalion had about 300 men under Captains Matthew Purnell, William Purnell, E. Purnell, Thomas Purnell, and Dale; the Snow Hill Battalion, with about 578 men, had Captains Spence, Stewart, Layfield, Handy, Walton, Patterson, Smyley, Parramore, and William Richardson. Both of these county battalions were volunteers in the cause of independence and comprised about thirteen per cent of the total white population. Many men also enlisted from Worcester in commands elsewhere. Colonel Peter Chaille commanded the Tenth Battalion and Colonel William Purnell the Twenty-fourth of the Maryland Militia authorized by the Convention of 1775. Members from Worcester of the Provincial Convention of 1776 that framed Maryland's first Constitution were Samuel Handy, Peter Chaille, Smith Bishop, and Josiah Mitchell. Delegates to the State Convention of 1788 which ratified the Constitution of the United States were John Done, Peter Chaille, William Morris, and James Martin.²⁸

An illustrious son of Worcester in the Revolution was Colonel John Gunby. Born in 1745 and joining the patriot's cause against his father's wishes, Gunby organized and equipped an independent company at his own expense. Among the first to be organized, it enrolled one hundred and three men including officers. He commanded the first Maryland Regiment in the famous Battle of Cowpens, operating as a part of the Southern Army commanded by General Nathanael Greene. Gunby's men also distinguished themselves in the Battle of Guilford Court House under General Greene. Shortly after the close of the war, Gunby was given the rank of Brigadier-General. He was an original member of the Society of the Cincinnati for the State of Maryland.²⁹

Down through the nineteenth century in Worcester County definite advancement could be shown and a promising future appeared in store. The County was capitalizing upon its land that was eminently adapted for the cultivation of vegetables, including sweet and Irish potatoes, peas, beans, and melons which were shipped in large quantities annually to Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York. It was written in 1892 that "Perhaps no section east of the Mississippi River is more favorable to the successful culture of the larger and smaller fruits, such as apples, peaches, pears, cherries, strawberries, raspberries, etc."³⁰

With a population according to the Census in 1890 of 19,747—12,893 whites and 6,854 Negroes—the capabilities of the County according to Scharf were still "not half utilized." Clover, timothy, orchard grass, alfalfa and all the grasses were successfully grown and used for hay or pasturage. "On the seaside farms, which border the county on one side for a distance of 40 miles, are hundreds of acres of salt marsh, in a considerable degree covered with a natural grass, luxuriant and valuable, furnishing pasture range for large herds of stock and rich hay for animals in winter quarters. The rivers, bays and creeks abound with fish, shad, herring, perch, rock, trout, drum, sheepshead, etc. The oyster industry is extensive and important, giving employment to thousands and supplying a profitable source of investment. The oysters of Worcester County waters are superior to the Chesapeake bivalve, and have a reputation of their own in the great cities where they are prized as a delicious luxury by the epicure."³¹

Commercial facilities of the County were described as "very good" in 1892. Assateague Bay, with inlet at Chincoteague, Virginia, was navigated by schooners of "fair size" which traded with Philadelphia, New York, Boston, and other sea-

ports. The Pocomoke River afforded good commercial facilities from Snow Hill and from all points along its course to the Chesapeake. The steamer *Tangier* made regular trips between Snow Hill and places on the river, stopping at Onancock, Crisfield, and Baltimore, making two trips weekly. A commodious boat, the *Tangier* carried large amounts of produce, consisting mainly of potatoes and fruit, and returned with freight of every description. Snow Hill, Berlin, and Pocomoke as well as several smaller towns, were on railroads and had daily communication with Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York.

The County possessed canning establishments, steam mills for sawing, dressing, and manufacturing lumber, a large factory for weaving cotton yarn at Snow Hill, and another for making whips of different sorts. Pocomoke City in 1892, with a population of 1,866—an increase of over thirty percent since 1880—was engaged largely in manufacturing doors, windows, mantels, and similar products. Scharf wrote that Pocomoke City had “many advantages, and is a neat, enterprising and thrifty place, has the electric light, and is under excellent corporate management.”³²

Land in 1892 was cheap in Worcester County, varying according to locality and quality from \$5 to \$50 an acre. Improved agricultural implements such as reapers, mowers, drills, planters, and harrows were coming more and more into general use. There was also more interest in improved stock—horses, cattle, sheep and hogs. “In some isolated places in remote points of the county, where formerly stock of all kinds was of the most inferior grade, may now be found on farms belonging to the poorest farmers, specimens of cattle that would not be a discredit to a herd in the best parts of New York or Pennsylvania.”³³

SNOW HILL

The Act of the General Assembly of 1683 that provided for the establishment of five towns at important locations in Somerset County, listed as the fourth location a site on “Morgan’s land formerly called Barrowes towards the head of ‘Pocomoke.’” This land belonged to Henry Morgan on the south side of the Pocomoke River near the headwaters, not far from the present town of Snow Hill. After investigation and inspection, however, the site was considered to be undesirable so the town site was changed to the Snow Hill tract with the approval of the Council in 1684. An Act of the next session of the Assembly in 1686 provided for “a towne or port at Snow Hill on the land formerly belonging to Henry Bishop and last to Ann Bishop his widow. . . .”³⁴

Thus Snow Hill was created in Old Somerset County, now in Worcester County, and has had a consecutive history of life on the same site for over two centuries and a half. The commissioners obtained the necessary acreage for the town of Snow Hill from the Bishop family and the town was shortly off to a good beginning. It attracted the thrifty Scotch merchants and we find such men as Alexander Erskine, John Galbraith, John Henry, the Spences, Martins, Rounds, and Donelsons setting up homes and business in and about the town.³⁵

Torrence says that the town of Snow Hill became in reality the “metropolis” of Old Somerset. When Worcester County was created it became the county seat. During the early part of the eighteenth century the arrival of two brothers, Robert and Edward Martin, who were Scotch merchants, gave added zest to the commercial activities of Snow Hill Town. By 1721 it appears that Robert Martin had obtained by purchase most of the acreage surrounding the town and

all the lots in Snow Hill not formerly sold. Robert Martin died in 1725 and his properties in Snow Hill passed to his son John Martin. The latter, with James Martin (a cousin who upon Robert Martin's death married his widow, Mrs. Mary Downes Martin), became the controlling factors in the development of the town.

Snow Hill's boundaries were re-surveyed in 1742 and again in 1793, and



(Photo Courtesy of Dr. John W. Robertson)

All Hallows Episcopal Church, Snow Hill

marked in the latter year. A plat of the 1793 survey, giving lot numbers, streets and alleys, and the evidence upon which the survey rests, is recorded in Worcester County Court.³⁶

In all probability the first "Meeting House" of the Snow Hill congregation of the Presbyterian Church and the first parish church of Snow Hill (later All Hallows) Parish were erected on the "open space places to be left on which may be erected Church or Chapell. . . ."³⁷ The building of the first church dates back to 1734, during Reverend Mr. Fletcher's time. In 1754, Rev. John Rosse began his pastoral duties which continued until the latter part of 1775. Today, the exterior of All Hallows Church remains about as it was in 1756 when, after eight years of work, it was completed. Changes include the replacement of the old pews and woodwork in the 1870s, a new recessed chancel and slate roof in 1891 and new windows in 1899.

The present brick Makemie Memorial Presbyterian Church in Snow Hill, built in 1890, is a successor to the "plain country building" erected sometime between 1686 and 1697 during the pastorship of Reverend Samuel Davis,

who served with Francis Makemie as one of the first Presbyterian ministers in America.³⁸

The one remaining large old brick house in Snow Hill, now called "Boxhaul," was formerly known as "Ingleside" and "Chanceford." It was erected in 1755 by Robert Morris, Register of Wills of Worcester County.³⁹

Victorian homes are numerous and, like the Hargis House, often handsomely furnished. Other notable houses include the Whaley House, a two story white frame house with square columns and two outside chimneys at each end of the main wing and another on the kitchen wing; Cherrystone, formerly called the Teagle Townsend House, built about 1814; the Burris House, and the Payne House.⁴⁰

Snow Hill was the home of Colonel Charles Chaille Long, a distinguished explorer, soldier, diplomat, and war correspondent, who won the cross of the French Legion of Honor. He was with Stanley during the latter's explorations in Africa.⁴¹

Prior to the days of steamboats and railroads, Snow Hill was practically isolated from the outside world, although carrying on a good trade with the West Indies. As a port of entry, the town saw a continuous parade of packets taking out cypress lumber, shingles, and other commodities, and bringing in rum, sugar, and molasses. Smuggling was carried on through the Chincoteague Bay and up the Pocomoke River and many stories have been handed down of the brushes of the buccaneers with customs officials.⁴² Early townsmen also dealt in tobacco and crops produced in this new seaside region by immigrants from Virginia and the Chesapeake country. The river is only seven miles from Chincoteague Bay, and a freight road built to the east formed a short overland link between the Chesapeake and north Atlantic ports.⁴³

Bad fires swept Snow Hill in 1834 and 1893. Following the latter disaster, the town was reorganized and granted a new charter by the General Assembly. The original charter of 1686 had been replaced several times prior to the present charter which dates from 1894.

James C. Mullikin, writing recently of Snow Hill, says it is a close rival of Pocomoke for the title of prettiest town on the lower Shore, and "in addition it is almost unique in Maryland in that it operates on the pay-as-you-go basis and thus has no bonded debt."⁴⁴ In addition, Mayor John O. Byrd points out that Snow Hill has the lowest tax rate of any of the larger towns of the Shore—only 75 cents on the \$100 assessed valuation. The town's population today is about 2,800. At present the water and sewer systems are being rebuilt and an addition to the high school is planned. Since World War II, two new clothing manufacturing plants have been added, and a poultry dressing plant has been expanded.⁴⁵ There are several canneries, a basket factory, a shirt factory, and other minor industrial plants.

"With its long, straight, shady trees laid out at right angles, Snow Hill is peaceful, gracious, and unselfconscious. If the . . . editors of the *Democratic Messenger* (founded 1879) conduct no trade-boosting campaigns, it is because the paper, like the people, has an agricultural outlook and income, and is county-minded rather than town-minded. No loud protests are made over the gradually declining population and civic pride is expressed not by showing signboards at the towns limits but in white-painted houses and well-tended gardens. The town government is efficient and public utilities are well administered."⁴⁶

There are many interesting points in the vicinity of Snow Hill. At Public

Landing, on the shore of the Chincoteague Bay, formerly a busy shipping point and now primarily a summer resort, stands the "Mansion House," with an eighteenth century section at right angles to the later main wing. This home until recently belonged to the Spence family (including Judge Ara Spence, 1793-1866). Nearby is "Mount Ephraim," a story-and-a-half brick house built early in the eighteenth century on a great tract patented by the Purnell family. Also close by is "Watermelon Point" or "Simperton," built by a Purnell about 1712. On the Salisbury Road from Snow Hill was Askiminokonson Indian Reservation established by the Maryland Assembly in 1686 at "Indian Town" where a tribe of Nanticokes had a settlement. Milbourne Landing off the same road is a recreational area developed by the Re-settlement Administration on a large tract of land along the west side of the Pocomoke River.

About four miles northwest of Snow Hill is the tall, crumbling, brick stack of Nassawango Furnace, erected in 1832 to smelt the bog ore of Nassawango Creek. The furnace was abandoned in 1847 and with it went the short-lived boom town of about 100 houses, a hotel, and stores. About this old furnace and its environs is woven the story of that remarkable novel, *The Entailed Hat*, written by George Alfred Townsend, himself a native of Worcester County.⁴⁷

The nearby Warren Mansion, known also as "The Forest," a wilderness home of concrete, follows no set architectural style. Its builder, Frank A. Warren, was famous for his murals which decorate public and semi-public buildings in various cities.⁴⁸

POCOMOKE CITY

Referred to as "visually the most attractive town on the lower Shore," Pocomoke is a rival of Salisbury for the retail trade of a large area in Maryland and in nearby Virginia counties.⁴⁹ Several years ago the Department of Commerce of the United States announced that Pocomoke had the highest per capita purchases in Maryland, indicating the volume of the town's retail trade.

Pocomoke City's roots may be traced back to the late seventeenth century. In about 1670 Colonel William Stevens established a ferry across the Pocomoke River where the town now stands and called it "Stevens' Ferry." A settlement developed, referred to later as Stevens' Landing. In the early 1680s the log Presbyterian Meeting House was established by Rev. Francis Makemie, and from this the name of the settlement became Meeting House Landing.⁵⁰ Then, around 1700, as the tobacco trade began to prosper, a warehouse was built of cypress logs on the "hill" a short distance below Stevens' Ferry and henceforth the town was known as "Warehouse Landing." From about 1780 until 1878 the town was called Newtown, after which it was called Pocomoke City.

From the close of the American Revolution to the end of the Civil War, Newtown was a quiet country village on a river. Several schooners made regular trips to and from Baltimore, but generally the "simple life" prevailed. An occasional visit to Snow Hill, especially during the court session, or on "Return Day" after an election, and an occasional summer picnic on the water seemed to suffice for excitement.

New life seemed to hit the town suddenly in 1865, however. In compliance with a petition of the leading citizens the General Assembly granted the town an Act of Incorporation, providing for a Board of Commissioners with full power to open and name new streets, and widen and straighten old ones. Dr. John L.

Hearne was selected to make a survey of the town. By 1868 the first steamboats began to ply regularly between Pocomoke wharves and the outside world. Among the early steamboats were the *Helen*, the *Maggie*, the *Sue*, the *Highland Light*, and others.

The town grew rapidly and a succession of fires in 1866, 1888, 1892 and 1922 kept the town modernized as townspeople quickly rebuilt after each disaster.



(Courtesy Dr. Edward J. Clarke)

Pocomoke City Band in 1910, Worcester County

Today, "Streets, except the business section of Market Street, are narrow but shady and trim, and the houses have the comfortable air that goes with the steady prosperity of a town that is frankly commercial and proud of it. Individual residents, however, have the qualities of Eastern Shoremen everywhere."⁵¹ The City Hall is a handsome brick building of the modified Georgian Colonial type and was erected in 1936 as a PWA project. The town is extremely proud of this building, of its modern business section centering around a wide main street, and of its well kept, tree-lined residential streets. Population of the town and its immediate surroundings is estimated at 4,000. Approximately fifty new houses have been built in and around the town since the war.⁵²

The public square before the Civil War was called "the Hill" because it was ten feet higher than the river. Typically, the town was jammed with country folk on Saturday afternoon and evening. In the 1820s and 1830s booths were set up on "the Hill" where cakes, candy, beer, cider and other items were sold. There was boxing, wrestling, and dancing. Newtown gained a reputation of being a very disorderly town, with gambling, drinking, and fighting very common. Yet there was a strong religious element, the Methodists prevailing.⁵³

In 1844, when the possibilities of the surrounding forests were realized, Newtown experienced a boom as the cypress began to be cut and sawed. Sawmills

sprang up everywhere. Shipbuilding along the rivers was stimulated. Barges, decked schooners, and even steamboats were launched.

"Beverly," the old colonial homestead of the famous Dennis family, is located near Dividing Creek on the east bank of Pocomoke River. The tract of land on which "Beverly" is located was patented to Donnoch Dennis, first settler of that name in Maryland, in 1669. The home was commenced in 1774. It is constructed of the large, old English style of brick. Until 1926 it was owned by the Dennis family.⁵⁴

Overlooking the Pocomoke River, about six miles northwest of Pocomoke City, is "Cellar House," an early eighteenth century frame house with brick ends and much primitive paneling. Legend has it that an underground passage runs from the cellar to the river through which pirates carried their loot to be stored in the house until sold. Other versions refer to it as a part of the Underground Railroad system.⁵⁵

OCEAN CITY

Ocean City, famed as a seashore resort, represents a leading Worcester County economic asset. "The business of putting up hotels and boarding houses and of laying out the beach in lots as sites for seaside cottages, all primarily with a view to sea-bathing . . . arrived relatively late on these shores, with respect to the Jersey coast, for example."⁵⁶ The mass movement to the sea began only in the past century with nearby residents being drawn to the beach now known as Ocean City certainly by the 1860s, more than a decade before the founding of the town. Marye writes that "In our mind's eye we can see the ladies of those distant, mid-Victorian days timorously 'resorting' to the surf from the then almost uninhabited beach, clad in sleeved and skirted bathing-suits, stockings and hats, which left only their faces and hands chastely visible. Very lady-like indeed were their cries of more or less assumed fright and their tittering as the first receding surge tugged at their nether extremities and threatened to draw them out toward the deep."⁵⁷

Ocean City was founded by a company of "well meaning Eastern Shoremen" and formally opened to visitors on July 4th, 1875.⁵⁸ The first hotels were the Atlantic, the Seaside, and Congress Hall, all established within five or six years of the town's founding. Prior to the extension of the railroad across Sinepuxent Bay, patrons were ferried across the Bay in scows. Every hotel had its hacks, driven by white or Negro men, whose mission it was to bring in as many "guests" as possible. In the 1920s the automobile had undermined the railroad's passenger business so much that the destruction of the railroad bridge in the storm of 1933 was no great hardship to the resort. In addition to damaging watercraft, wharves, and some big hotels the storm also brought a blessing—the opening of the long-closed inlet. Since then Federal and State funds to a great amount have been spent on improvements to the inlet and to inner harbors at Ocean City.⁵⁹ This storm was responsible also for the development of an important fishing center at Ocean City. About 3,500,000 pounds of fish are handled a year, bringing an income of about \$750,000. Because of it, Ocean City no longer hibernates completely as formerly in the winter. Many species of fish are caught by anglers in the surf and still-fishing from boats on ocean and bay, but it is the big-game fishing that has brought Ocean City its greatest fame recently. Channel bass (drum) and tuna of great size are taken frequently, and white marlin, averaging 70 pounds,

are found during summer months from twenty to thirty miles out at shoals called the Jack Spot, the Tide Rips, Fenwick's Ridge, and Winter Quarter. A marlin caught in 1937 weighed 130 pounds.⁶⁰

Ocean City has changed a great deal from olden days when its society was described as a "happy-go-lucky, informal, but eminently genteel consolation



George Washington Hotel, Ocean City

party.”⁶¹ It now has a summer population running over 30,000 on the 4th of July and Labor Day weekends. Thousands attend conventions in this hotel and apartment house resort. There are over forty beach front hotels, operated chiefly by Eastern Shore natives on the American Plan. There are countless private cottages whose occupants have available a boardwalk over two miles in length, with the southern end lined with amusement places, night clubs, and refreshment stands. Surf-bathing is excellent and protected by lifeguards and safety ropes. All desirable sporting facilities are available.⁶²

Ocean City today is a fast-growing resort. Mayor Daniel Trimper estimated in May, 1949, that something like \$4,000,000 had been spent on new cottages and expansion of hotels in the two preceding years and he predicted continued growth at the same tempo. Construction of a dual highway toward Ocean City, extending from Berlin and from Delaware to the end of the existing dual highway about a mile from Ocean City, was to begin in the summer of 1949.⁶³ Ocean City has received a great amount of publicity in the past couple of years because of its unchecked gambling. For the 1948-1949 fiscal year more than 70 Ocean City establishments held Federal licenses for the slot machines at \$100 a machine. The Federal government requires licensing, even though the machines which pay off

are a violation of Maryland law covering Worcester County.⁶⁴ City and County officials are responsible for enforcement. Particular criticism was levelled at the sale of intoxicants to minors.⁶⁵ Obvious lack of enforcement led to bickering among county officials in the summer of 1949, but the perennial problem of handling week-enders and vacationists has not been solved.

In the summer of 1948 the Baltimore *Evening Sun* carried a story of a rival resort town being planned four miles to the north of Ocean City, to be known eventually as Ocean Bay City.⁶⁶

BERLIN

Between the Pocomoke and the Atlantic Ocean is the town of Berlin. The first village in this upper Sea Side region arose at a gristmill on nearby Trappe Creek, but the main highway bypassed to the westward and the settlement that became Berlin grew up in the early nineteenth century around a public stable, blacksmith shops, and tavern. It was built on land patented by Colonel William Stevens in 1677 at Burleigh.⁶⁷ Even after the spelling was changed to that of the German city, the accent stayed on the first syllable. Some state that the name is a contraction of "Burleigh Inn."

Buckingham Presbyterian Church was organized around the close of the seventeenth century by the Rev. Francis Makemie. The first and second church buildings stood in Buckingham Cemetery at the southern edge of town—the second, of brick, was blown down in 1857; the third burned in the Berlin fire of 1904, and the present granite Buckingham Church was completed in 1906.⁶⁸

A short distance south of the town is a small, unpretentious house, the birthplace of Stephen Decatur, great American naval hero. His parents, though residents of Philadelphia, came to Worcester County in late spring, 1778, and Decatur was born January 5, 1779. It was during the period that Lord Howe and his British troops occupied Philadelphia. This, no doubt, along with the desire for quiet surroundings, brought his parents to Maryland. When the young Decatur was three months old he was taken to Philadelphia.⁶⁹ On April 20, 1940, the Eastern Shore Society of Baltimore City dedicated a suitable bronze marker, placed upon a granite pillar, at the place of Commodore Decatur's birth. It was a big day and an appropriate parade of various organizations was held through the decorated town. The Honorable Samuel K. Dennis, Chief Judge of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore, introduced Honorable George L. Radcliffe, United States Senator from Maryland at the time and President of the Maryland Historical Society. After a "well considered address," Senator Radcliffe introduced the principal speaker for the occasion, Commander Leland C. Lovett of the United States Navy.⁷⁰

In the town of Berlin, within a mile of the birthplace of Decatur, is "Burley Cottage," also referred to as Burleigh Cottage and built about 1830 by Captain John Selby Purnell. Its name probably is taken from "Burley," granted to Colonel Stevens in 1677, together with many tracts in this section of the peninsula.⁷¹ Also in the town is Burleigh Manor, a handsome, dignified mansion of brick that has been plastered, built in the early nineteenth century by John P. Mitchell.

One of the main prides of Berlin is Harrison's Nurseries, established in 1873. Its orchards, chiefly apple and peach, are among the largest in the country. The village has other nurseries, a chicken-dressing plant (enlarged since the war), and a barrel factory. Small factories turn out cheap clothing, taking advantage

of low wages, taxes, and power rates. Berlin has a public library and its own electric, water, and sewerage systems. With the upsurge of the broiler industry in recent years, Berlin and the surrounding area have found a new source of income. Worcester County is the second-ranking poultry-producing county in the United States and lies next to the first-ranking county—Sussex, of Delaware.

Berlin has grown considerably since World War II and now boasts a population of about 2,300. A new \$100,000 Diesel generator has been installed in its municipal electric plant and its water system has been enlarged at a cost of \$125,000. The town's lumber industry has been expanded and automotive establishments and two new laundries added. A new hospital, sponsored by the Lion's Club, is planned.⁷²

St. Martin's Church, near the village of Showell, was the parish church of Worcester Parish for nearly seventy years. The present brick building was built between 1756-1759 on the site of its pretentious predecessor. A chapel of ease for Snow Hill Parish was here as early as 1703. Worcester Parish was erected in 1744 and organized in 1753.⁷³

Other towns in Worcester include Bishopville, with a population of about 300. It is a neat, white-painted trading center for farmers that originated as Milltown at a dammed headwater of St. Martin's River, an estuary of Isle of Wight Bay. Bishopville Prong is now very shallow, but as late as 1900 small sailing vessels carried lumber and farm products out to sea and up to Philadelphia and other ports.

Showell, with a population of about 130, was named for one of the largest slaveholding families of the region. The old two-story white frame house is part of the much larger Showell House that formerly stood farther back from the road.⁷⁴

Whaleysville, with about 300 people, was named for Captain Seth Whaley who settled here in the late eighteenth century. Formerly this community was the center of the shingle industry, but is now little more than a ghost village of old cypress-sheathed houses and stores.⁷⁵

At the crossroads settlement called Jones, or Friendship, is the small story-and-a-half Evans House, built in the late eighteenth century with an outside chimney. It is one of many old houses in the area sheathed with hand-riven bald cypress shingles from the near-by Great Pocomoke Swamp.⁷⁶

The railroad station at Newark is given the local name Queponco in order to avoid confusion with other Newarks. In this town of about 250 population a large rectangular brick building was erected in 1837, and known as the Worcester Almshouse. It was sold by the County in 1917.

South of Snow Hill is Girdletree, population 375, a shipping point for farm products and sea products. Moving south toward the Virginia border one comes into Stockton, a slightly larger town, which is a railroad shipping point for large quantities of Chincoteague Bay oysters and about 100,000 soft-shell and peeler crabs annually (1940), as well as clams and other seafood. About three miles east of Stockton is George's Island Landing on Chincoteague Bay, two miles north of the Virginia line, where oyster houses, a crab factory, and a steamed oyster house may be found.⁷⁷

Worcester County has had an interesting newspaper history. The *Snow Hill Messenger and Worcester County Advertiser* was published from September, 1827 until 1834, during which time the title varied somewhat.⁷⁸ Then came the *Worcester Banner*, which had a short existence, from November, 1838 until 1840. The

Worcester County Shield was established on January 6, 1846. Its title varied (*Worcester County Shield and Farmers Manual*; *Worcester Shield and Spirit of the Whig Press*; etc.) until 1856 when it became the *Worcester Shield* which name it retained until it ceased publication in 1890. *The Borderer* appeared on February 11, 1834, later followed by the *Worcester Sentinel and Farmers and Mechanics Shield* on October 16, 1835.⁷⁹



Mason Canning Company, Pocomoke City

The Democratic-Messenger was founded in 1866 and has continued to this day through several publishers, owners, and editors.

The *Eastern Shore Times* was established in 1926 in Berlin. The name was changed to *The Berlin Times* in 1932. In the same year it merged with the *Berlin-Ocean City News* which had been established in 1929, and the name again became the *Eastern Shore Times*. It is published in Berlin.⁸⁰

Old Newtown (Pocomoke City) boasted its first newspaper in 1865 when the *Newtown Record* was founded. A few years later, William D. Clarke, a native of the section and a cousin of Dr. Edward J. Clarke, present editor of the *Worcester Democrat*, founded the *Newtown Gazette*. This paper was later merged with the *Newtown Record* and the new paper was known as *The Record and Gazette*. In 1888 this paper was adopted as the official organ of the Prohibition Party of the Eastern Shore of Maryland. In 1890 the paper was discontinued and an entirely new paper was established under the name of *The Press*. Mean-

while, *The Times* had appeared but was discontinued after the great fire of 1888. And in 1885, the *Peninsula Ledger* was established.

In 1894 another paper was launched in Pocomoke City, called *The Enterprise*. Shortly it was merged with the *Peninsula Ledger* and *The Ledger-Enterprise* was founded.

The Worcester Democrat was founded in 1898 and the *Ledger-Enterprise* was merged with it in 1920. *The Worcester Democrat* became the property of Dr. Edward J. Clarke in 1922. Dr. Clarke is today the dean of Maryland weekly editors. A graduate of St. John's College, for many years he taught English and other subjects at Washington College and served also as Superintendent of Public Schools in Kent County, Maryland.

Mr. Lorie C. Quinn in 1890 founded *The Eastern Shoreman* in Pocomoke City. At the end of two years he moved the paper to Crisfield where it became the *Crisfield Times*.⁸¹

In summary, a writer in *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, presents an effective analysis of the County:

Between the eastern chain of small, salty bays, noted for fish, oysters, and waterfowl, and the Pocomoke's cypress swamps, the country is low, flat, and largely wooded. The old-growth lobolly pine that made the paneling and wide flooring of the old houses is nearly exhausted, but second-growth pine keeps sawmills humming and crews busy cutting piling and coal-mine props. Much piling used to support building at the New York World's Fair of 1939 came from Worcester County. Holly abounds and is a source of pre-Christmas revenue.

Because of the tempering effect of the ocean and the Chesapeake, the growing season (210 days average) is as long as that of inland regions much farther south. When the sandy soil is fertilized it produces two crops of Irish potatoes on the same land in one season; sweet potatoes, strawberries, corn, wheat, and legumes are important crops. There are large peach and apple orchards, canneries, and nurseries. The production of broiler ('Briler') chickens . . . has become common. . . .

Worcester County, despite its age in settlement, retains many qualities of its early frontier days. Isolated by geography and until recently by poor roads, the people live to themselves, indifferent to events in other parts of Maryland, resenting any 'meddling' from Annapolis or Baltimore. . . . They are friendly, hospitable, and full of polite curiosity toward strangers.⁸²

NOTES, CHAPTER LI

1. Swepson Earle (ed.), *Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore* (Baltimore, Maryland, 1916), p. 135. This article, on Worcester County, was written by Judge Samuel K. Dennis.

2. *Archives of Maryland*, V, pp. 54-57; Clayton Torrence, *Old Somerset on the Eastern Shore of Maryland* (Richmond, 1935), p. 423.

3. *Maryland Geological Survey*, VI (Baltimore, The Johns Hopkins Press, 1906), pp. 567-568.

4. Torrence, *op. cit.*, p. 424.

5. *Ibid.*; *Acts of Assembly 1742*, Chapter 19.

6. *Maryland Geological Survey*, VI, p. 568. Article XIII, Section 2, *Constitution of 1867*. *Maryland Manual*, 1948-1949, pp. 349-350.

7. Torrence, *op. cit.*, p. 429.
8. *Ibid.*, based upon Worcester Court, Deed Liber A, pp. 1-5.
9. *Archives of Maryland*, LI, p. 78.
10. *Ibid.*, V, p. 109.
11. *Ibid.*, p. 110.
12. *Ibid.*, pp. 107, 111-112; Torrence, *op. cit.*, pp. 425-426.
13. Harry Franklin Covington, "The Discovery of Maryland or Verrazzano's Visit to the Eastern Shore," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, X, No. 3 (September, 1915), p. 199 *et seq.*
14. William B. Marye, "The Sea Coast of Maryland," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, LX, No. 2 (June, 1945), pp. 94-95. This is an authoritative article by a leading scholar of Maryland history.
15. *Ibid.*, pp. 97-98.
16. Louis Dow Scisco, "Colonel Henry Norwood in Worcester County, 1650," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XVIII, No. 2 (June, 1923), p. 130.
17. *Ibid.*, p. 109.
18. *Ibid.*, pp. 110-111.
19. *Archives of Maryland*, XXVIII, pp. 493-494, quoted by Marye, *op. cit.*, p. 112.
20. *Ibid.*, pp. 112-114.
21. *Some Records of Sussex County, Delaware*, compiled by the Rev. C. H. B. Turner (Lewes, 1909), p. 41, quoted by Marye, *op. cit.*, p. 108.
22. *Archives of Maryland*, XLII, pp. 457, 625.
23. *Ibid.*, IX, p. 204.
24. *Ibid.*, XVI, p. 286; *ibid.*, XLIII, p. 151.
25. Marye, *op. cit.*, p. 109, quoting *Report of a Commission for the Survey of Sounds on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, Maryland, and Delaware*, 1834, p. 11.
26. Quoted in Earle, *Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore*, p. 137; *Baltimore Sun*, April 18, 1909.
27. See Chapter XIX, Dr. Esther M. Dole on "Loyalists."
28. Earle, *Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore*, p. 138.
29. Eastern Shore Society of Baltimore City, Bulletin Number 2 (1927-1932), pp. 47-51.
30. J. Thomas Scharf, *The Natural and Industrial Resources and Advantages of Maryland, Being a Complete Description of all the Counties of the State and the City of Baltimore*. . . (Annapolis, 1892), pp. 110-111. Scharf, noted Maryland historian, was in 1892 Commissioner of the Land Office of Maryland.
31. *Ibid.*, p. 111.
32. *Ibid.*, p. 112.
33. *Ibid.*, pp. 112-113.
34. *Archives of Maryland*, VII, pp. 609-619, XIII, p. 132. See Clayton Torrence, *Old Somerset on The Eastern Shore of Maryland* (Richmond, 1935); pp. 416-417.
35. *Ibid.*, p. 417.
36. *Ibid.*, p. 418. Deed Liber P, pp. 286-293.
37. *Archives of Maryland*, VII, pp. 609-619; Torrence, *op. cit.*, p. 418.
38. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 444; Earle, *The Chesapeake Bay Country*, pp. 438-439; Earle, *Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore*, pp. 145-146.
39. *Ibid.*, pp. 143-144; Earle, *The Chesapeake Bay Country*, p. 438.
40. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 444.
41. *Baltimore Sun*, November 11, 1938.
42. "Snow Hill, Maryland," a pamphlet published by the Snow Hill-Worcester Chamber of Commerce.
43. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 443.
44. *Baltimore Sunday American*, May 29, 1949.
45. *Ibid.*; also, Frank Henry, "Snow Hill," *Baltimore Sun*, September 7, 1947.
46. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 443.

47. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 446; Earle, *Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore*, p. 147.
48. *Journal-Every Evening* (Wilmington), November 24, 1942.
49. James C. Mullikin, *Baltimore Sunday American*, May 29, 1949.
50. This information is taken from the manuscript prepared by Eben Hearne, "Old Newtown and New Pocomoke City," now in the possession of Dr. Edward J. Clarke who made it available to the history department of Washington College.
51. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 427.
52. Mullikin, *op. cit.*
53. Hulbert Footner, *Rivers of the Eastern Shore* (New York, 1944), pp. 68-85.
54. Earle, *The Chesapeake Bay Country*, pp. 432, 437.
55. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 446.
56. Marye, *op. cit.*, p. 114. This is a most interesting account, drawn partly from personal recollections and contacts.
57. *Ibid.*, p. 115.
58. *Ibid.*; *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 381. This latter source states that some of the streets were laid out in 1872. The five men credited with founding Ocean City are: Lemuel Showell, George W. Purnell, B. Jones Taylor, and R. Jenkins Henry—all of Snow Hill—and Purnell Toadvine of Salisbury. *Democratic Messenger* (Snow Hill, June, 1938).
59. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 381.
60. *Ibid.*, pp. 381-382.
61. Marye, *op. cit.*, p. 117.
62. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, pp. 381-382.
63. James C. Mullikin, *Baltimore Sunday American*, May 29, 1949.
64. *Baltimore Evening Sun*, June 28, 1949, *Baltimore Sun*, August 13, 1949, August 14, 1949
65. *Baltimore Evening Sun*, August 26, 1948; *ibid.*, June 30, 1949.
66. August 21, 1948.
67. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 441.
68. *Ibid.* See Torrence, *op. cit.*, pp. 258-262. The exact founding of this Congregation is still a mystery. Torrence says that "The earliest recorded reference to this congregation under the name of 'Buckingham,' so far discovered, is in January, 1735. . ." See I. Marshall Page, *Old Buckingham By The Sea*.
69. Earle, *The Chesapeake Bay Country*, pp. 439-440.
70. Eastern Shore Society of Baltimore City, *Bulletin Number 4* (1939-1943), pp. 70-77, 91-92.
71. Earle, *The Chesapeake Bay Country*, pp. 440-443.
72. James C. Mullikin, *Baltimore Sunday American*, May 29, 1949.
73. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 440; Earle, *The Chesapeake Bay Country*, pp. 443-444; Earle, *Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore*, pp. 148-149.
74. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 440.
75. *Ibid.*, p. 380.
76. *Ibid.*, p. 440.
77. *Ibid.*, pp. 446-447.
78. This information is based upon a research paper by Paul T. Pitcher, an honor graduate of Washington College in 1948. His manuscript is in the possession of the History Department of Washington College.
79. *Union List of Newspapers*, p. 267.
80. *Union List of Newspapers*, p. 262.
81. The data on Newtown and Pocomoke City papers come from the manuscript of Eben Hearne now in the possession of Dr. Edward J. Clarke, and generously made available to the Washington College History Department. Mr. Hearne some years ago wrote the history of Pocomoke City for the *Worcester Democrat*. Twenty-five installments were published. Chapter 22 was on the newspapers.
82. *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State*, p. 439.

CHAPTER LII

A Narrative History of Caroline County

*By William N. Rairigh**

Caroline County is unique among the Eastern Shore counties because no part of it is washed by the Chesapeake, and for this reason it is often referred to as the "inland county."¹ Although Caroline is almost entirely above salt water, and surface waters account for less than two per cent of its total area of 325 square miles,² two rivers—the Choptank and the Tuckahoe—and Marshyhope Creek (often spoken of locally as the Northwest Fork of the Nanticoke River) have been important factors in the county's development.

The Choptank, the largest of the Chesapeake's eastern tributaries, with the Tuckahoe and its tributary, known as Mason's Branch at its lower reaches or Long Marsh nearer its source, form the northern and western boundaries between Caroline County and Talbot and Queen Anne's counties; Dorchester bounds Caroline on the south, and the Delaware counties of Sussex and Kent form the eastern boundary. The Choptank has its source a few miles over the border in Kent County, Delaware and first enters the county near Goldsboro; it meanders lazily through the heart of the county until it is met some seven miles below Denton by the Tuckahoe.

There is no dearth of evidence to prove that the entire area now comprising Caroline County was originally inhabited by Indians; the discovery of relics and graves in the county, such words as Tuckahoe,³ Choptank⁴ and Nanticoke,⁵ accounts of early travelers, and local legends all serve to prove their existence in this area.

Existing records contain only scant mention of occasional friction between the colonists and the Indians. One incident, surviving simply as a legend, has to do with the kidnapping of a boy, Richard Willoughby, from his home near McCarty's Wharf (in the lower part of the county) by an Indian while his parents were working outdoors. After frantically searching for six weeks he was found, according to the legend, in an Indian encampment at Yellow Hill.⁶ For many years an Indian reservation was maintained on the Caroline side at Reliance.⁷ By the time Caroline County was formally erected Indians had become curiosities.

Caroline County traces its governmental antecedents to Isle of Kent County which is first mentioned in the colonial records of Maryland on August 2, 1642.⁸

* A native of Caroline County, Mr. Rairigh holds degrees from St. John's College, Annapolis, Maryland, and from the University of North Carolina. He has studied Political Science at the University of Maryland, and has also taught Government at that Institution and at Southwest Texas State College. He served in the Army Air Forces during World War II and is currently studying at Drexel Institute of Technology in Philadelphia.

The Calverts applied the name of Isle of Kent to the whole of the upper Eastern Shore lying north of the Choptank River.⁹ It was divided in 1661, with that portion lying south of the Choptank being called the Eastern Shore, and that portion lying to the north continuing to be called the Isle of Kent. Talbot County was carved from Isle of Kent County and embraced all the territory south and east of the Chester River, the Kent Narrows, Eastern Bay, and Chesapeake Bay and north of the Choptank River.¹⁰ Dorchester County was brought into being in the Spring of 1669. It was carved from that territory previously called the Eastern Shore, but which in 1666 had been created into Somerset County by gubernatorial proclamation.¹¹ At its creation Dorchester was bounded by the Choptank on the north and northeast, by the present state of Delaware on the east, by the Nanticoke River on the south, and the Chesapeake on the west and northwest.¹² It embraced the larger part of what is today Caroline County. In 1706 Queen Anne's County was created from Talbot and Kent. These are the antecedents of Caroline County, which was created by Act of Assembly in 1773—a century after the peopling of its river and creek fronts.

Circa 1663 the land in the Frazier Flats section (in the southwest corner of the county) was surveyed, and shortly thereafter surveys were made on Fowling Creek as well as lands further up the Choptank. In 1665 Cedar Point (later the site of Melvill's Warehouse) was surveyed; at about the same time surveys were made in the present-day Ridgely-Oakland section, which was then designated as the "Forest of the Choptank," and in the Marshyhope section between present-day Smithville and Federalsburg.¹³ Patents were applied for and lands were granted to settlers by the Lord Proprietor under his "Conditions of Plantation," which among other conditions stipulated an annual quit-rent.

Notwithstanding the terms of the Charter of Maryland granting to Lord Baltimore all lands between the 38th and 40th parallels extending to the Delaware Bay and the Atlantic Ocean, the Duke of York in 1682 made a questionable grant for a part of the same territory to a rival proprietor, William Penn. These conflicting grants obviously gave rise to endless litigation, as well as occasional border outrages. Because of the proximity of present-day Caroline County to the disputed borderline many settlers were loath to take up lands northeast of the Choptank.¹⁴ The Maryland-Pennsylvania dispute continued intermittently until 1750 when it was settled by "map" but on land the boundary was still indefinite. Since Penn's heirs and Frederick, Lord Baltimore, wanted it settled definitively they agreed to a survey, which, when completed on November 12, 1761, established the present boundary between Delaware and Maryland. According to a letter by Governor Sharpe, dated June 22, 1761, the surveyors, while in the present Hickman-Smithville section became ill with "Maryland fever from having been so long in a dismal part of the country abounding in swamps."¹⁵ This survey was a part of the master plan which culminated in establishing the famous Mason-Dixon Line.

Following the adjudication of the boundary dispute in 1761 the lands northeast of the Choptank were taken up rapidly, and this section of Dorchester and the inland area of neighboring Queen Anne's soon assumed a prominence within their respective counties, largely because of the fertility of the soil in this inland section. As the population in this bi-county area increased, new problems arose which made administration from Cambridge and Queenstown, the respective county seats, slow, clumsy and irksome; there was agitation for the erection of a new county and the establishment of a "seat of justice" on the upper Choptank to serve this rapidly growing region.

At the session of the General Assembly which met in November, 1773, two Dorchester delegates, William Richardson and Thomas White, introduced a bill, subsequently passed by the Assembly, providing for the erection of a new county, to be named Caroline in honor of Lady Caroline Eden, the sister of the sixth Lord Baltimore and then Lord Proprietor, and wife of the royal governor,¹⁶ embracing the remote inland sections of Queen Anne's and Dorchester counties. The act



Windmill, Federalsburg

prescribed the boundaries,¹⁷ and that the new county would be organized the following March (1774). Another act of the same legislature provided that, pending the erection of a courthouse and jail at Pig Point to be known as Eden-town (now Denton), county business should be conducted at Melvill's Warehouse (on the Choptank between present-day Denton and Greensboro).

Local government organization at this time consisted of the County Court acting as the executive and legislative, as well as judicial, branches. The sheriff, appointed by the Court, was the county-wide administrative officer. In accordance with the creation act of 1773, the November Court of 1774 divided the new county into five hundreds (administrative areas): Fork, Great Choptank, Choptank, Bridgetown, and Tuckahoe. They appointed a constable for each hundred who was to be the chief administrative officer within his respective hundred. During this time all elections were held at the county seat, and every voter possessing the requisite qualifications—fifty acres of land or fifty pounds sterling in money or personal property—was obliged to journey to the county seat to cast his vote *vive voce*; the sheriff was the judge of elections and made the final returns.

The polls were sometimes kept open for several days, but even so those persons living in the more remote sections found the practice most inconvenient. Around 1800 the county was divided into three election districts—Upper, Middle

and Lower (there are now eight)—which superceded the five hundreds, and decentralized the election machinery.¹⁸

A moment's reflection on the birthdate of Caroline County will show that the county is a child of the American Revolution, and records bear out that local government was hardly established, even on a provisional basis, before it was submitted to the revolutionary cause.

As prescribed by the act of 1773, the first court met on March 15-17, 1774, at Melvill's Warehouse. In April, 1774, two more delegates to the General Assembly were elected to join Richardson and White, who had retained their seats. Events were moving at a furious pace, and even before they were elected the last colonial Assembly (March, 1774) had been held, although at the time of the election this was unforeseen. Opposition to British tyranny was becoming more pronounced and mass meetings were held throughout the colonies to protest the various unpopular acts of the royal government. On June 18, 1774, a mass meeting of the citizens of Caroline County was held at Melvill's Warehouse and adopted a series of resolves, known as the "Caroline Resolutions," which affirmed loyalty to King George III but proposed an embargo on importations from Great Britain by an association of the colonies until the Boston Port Bill should be repealed.¹⁹ Delegates to a forthcoming meeting in Annapolis were elected, and it was further provided that they, in addition to several others named, were to act as a committee of correspondence. It is obvious that at this point the men of Caroline were seeking a readjustment of differences, not war—a change in trade relations, not a change in government.

The meeting was held at Annapolis and sought unity of action with the other colonies along lines suggested by the "Caroline Resolutions." By the time news of the battle at Lexington reached Annapolis on April 28, 1775, the die was cast, and the State governmental organization well established.

Caroline County had tried to work out a scheme whereby separation would not be necessary, but as the friction intensified "public sentiment in Caroline turned sharply to separation from England."²⁰ Thomas Johnson, "firebrand of the Revolution," was seated with the Caroline delegation in the Convention of 1776 when refused a seat from the Western Shore. Caroline's action was important, for Johnson not only later nominated George Washington for commander-in-chief but became the first governor of the State of Maryland. Caroline's action thus placed him in a position to be of great service to State and country.²¹

With few exceptions the population of Caroline staunchly supported the cause of independence; tories were scarce, but there were some profiteers who hoarded scarce materials, especially salt, until local raiding parties confiscated it, apparently with the tacit approval of the militia authorities. Caroline raised and drilled several militia units and sent not only its quota of troops into the front lines, where they served with honor, but also furnished the leader of the troops of the Eastern Shore—Colonel William Richardson. The war effort was supported at home by generous response to numerous calls for clothing, blankets, shoes, food (especially pork for which salt was a necessary preservative), lead, as well as money.

When the war was over and the people had settled back into their regular way of life an old, smouldering issue which had been latent for the duration of the war flamed anew, and immediately set-off one of those internal county controversies for which Caroline County has become renowned. It had to do with the location of the county seat.

Recall that the Act of Assembly in 1773 had provisionally established the seat of the new county at Melvill's Warehouse pending the erection of the court house and jail at Pig Point (to be called Eden-town). The Assembly had likewise made provision for raising the requisite funds for the construction of these buildings. Prior to the organization of Caroline County the taxpayers of Dorchester were assessed for the purpose of constructing a courthouse at Cambridge; those living in that portion which subsequently became Caroline had been assessed to the amount of 70,000 pounds of tobacco, so the Assembly directed that Dorchester turn over to Caroline 70,000 pounds of tobacco for which Caroline would credit those taxpayers formerly living in Dorchester at the time of the assessment. And further, it was directed that the taxpayers living in that section which had formerly been a part of Queen Anne's should be assessed in proportion to the amount received from Dorchester.²²

As we have seen, the first court met at Melvill's Warehouse, as scheduled, in March, 1774, but before any action could be taken on the permanent seat the critical days of the war had arrived, so the warehouse remained the seat of government until 1778. During the Revolution the county treasury had been practically depleted by general conditions, as well as by the depreciation of the currency, and thus the sum which had been set aside for the construction of the court house was practically non-existent.

Although there is little doubt that jealousy between the upper and lower portions of the county was the prime motivating factor in this controversy, the proponents for locating the county seat at Bridgetown (now Greensboro) had two telling arguments—both created by the Revolution. In the first place, there was already available a suitable building at Bridgetown, the old Dorchester County alms house, which would relieve the strain on the already depleted treasury, and secondly, they held that neither name—Pig Point or Eden-town—was suitable; the last because of the taint of the late royal government.

Both sides proved able and resourceful antagonists—sessions of the court were held at Bridgetown during 1778, 1779 and 1780; while from 1780 to 1790 the sessions of the court were again held at the Warehouse, while the battle continued to rage. Both were active pressure groups before the General Assembly, which in 1786 took a hand in the controversy to the extent of prohibiting the erection of a court house at any site prior to the meeting of the next General Assembly. It was finally agreed that the issue should be submitted to a referendum, and so it was submitted at the election for delegates to the General Assembly in 1790. When the ballots were counted Pig Point had won by a 2 to 1 majority. Plans were immediately made and executed whereby the seat was moved to a rented house at Pig Point pending the erection of the court house.²³

The court house, a replica of Independence Hall,²⁴ was erected in 1791, and the site became known as Denton.²⁵ But now the officeholders were loath to move to the county seat, and it took an act of Assembly, threatening a fine for non-compliance, to make them live in Denton.²⁶

Because Caroline was an economic and cultural entity, even before its creation in 1773, the old way of life was quickly resumed as soon as the Revolution was over.

The fertile soil had made for a sturdy agricultural economy, and we find that in 1783 about one-third of the county was in cultivation. Nine landholders, among the most prominent and wealthy men of the county, owned from about 800 to 2800 acres for a total of about fifteen thousand acres. There were also, at this

time, 290 slaves between the ages of 8 and 14 years, 334 male slaves between the ages of 14 and 45 years, and 226 female slaves between 14 and 36 years of age. The economy of the larger land holdings had been based on tobacco culture before the Revolution, and continued to fit into the normal pattern of the plantation scheme for some time.

Although the soil was suitable for the plantation system, it never gained the foothold in Caroline that it did in some of the other counties; consequently, neither did the institution of slavery.

A large portion of the land of Caroline County was farmed by small land-owners who worked within the frame of a household economy and a diversified cropping plan.²⁷

Almost as soon as a settlement sprang up a grist mill made its appearance in the locality, shortly followed by others, and so well constructed were they that several are still standing. Murray's Mill at Linchester was established, perhaps as early as 1670, on Hunting Creek; Potter's Mill was running in 1778 at Potter's Landing (now Williston). The Brick Mill was on the Choptank about three miles above Denton and opposite Melvill's Warehouse, and there was Bloomery near Smithville, Fowling Creek, Hog Creek, Anthony's, Driver's, Nichols' near Hillsboro, and Bradley's (now known as Crouse's) at Old Town Branch, which was in existence in 1782.²⁸ There were also tanneries located at nearly every trading center; such establishments were at Choptank Bridge, Tuckahoe Bridge, Potter's Landing, Hunting Creek and Northwest Fork.²⁹ Iron ore had been discovered prior to 1780 when a foundry was built at Smithville, but it failed in a short time, probably because the quality of the ore was poor.³⁰

With the abolition of the hundred and the creation of three election districts about 1800 a new interest was taken in county politics, but within another decade Caroline men had to drop their preoccupation with local issues to meet another national crisis—the War of 1812. Mass meetings were held, a committee of correspondence appointed, and resolutions adopted; one set of resolutions stated in part that:

the time has now arrived for a line to be drawn between the friends of their country and those who stand up boldly and condemn the measures of government and advocate or palliate the conduct of our implacable enemies.

In answer to the call for militia, Caroline contributed a regiment to the 12th Brigade, and an extra battalion. Caroline farmers went to the aid of their neighbors in the Bay area by permitting them to drive their livestock into the marshes where they could feed, safe from the marauding British.³¹

Apparently social life within the county was lively and pleasant, but seldom lavish, and for the "plantation set" consisted of visits to Annapolis during the sessions of the Assembly, and to Denton during court term (likely they stayed at the Old Brick Hotel which was doing business as early as 1775), of horse racing, fox-hunting, and houseparties. Local legend has it that while Andrew Jackson was attending a house party at Daffin House he met the hostess' brother, Charles Dickinson, whom he later killed in a duel in Kentucky over a horse race.³² It is more than likely that the focal point of social activity among the artisan-farmer group was the church.

From the founding of the colony until the "Glorious Revolution" of 1689 religious activity in the colony was marked by the ceaseless struggle between the Roman Catholic, Puritan and Anglo-Catholic sects for secular, as well as temporal,

pre-eminence. When in 1692 the Church of England was established in Maryland and the order was given for the laying-out of parishes, all of what was then Dorchester County was divided into two parishes—Dorchester and Great Choptank. As the population increased within this area it became necessary to divide Great Choptank Parish in 1725, and place all of what is now Caroline County east of the Choptank River in a new parish known as St. Mary's White Chapel. Undoubtedly services were held within the parish from its creation, but it was thirty years before the Assembly authorized the erection of a church. This church, used until the Revolution, was located about two miles from the present-day village of Linchester. In 1773 a chapel-of-ease³³ was established some three miles east of Denton on what is often spoken of as Chapel Branch. The Parish chronicler says:³⁴

It appears . . . that at the Chapel near Denton, and beneath its spreading oaks, church services were held and thanks returned to Him who gave the Victory at Yorktown and Gloucester, Virginia, in October of 1781. And also in 1783 the declaration of peace after the War was here celebrated by the people of this part of the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Delaware.³⁵

In 1784 the parish of St. Mary's White Chapel sent a delegate of the vestry to Annapolis for a convention, but the next time that the parish records show that a delegate from the parish attended a convention is in 1847,³⁶ which shows that the parish withered following the Revolution—from 1776 to 1850 it was intermittently served by four rectors whose total service was less than ten years.³⁷ The parish was reorganized in 1870, and the present parish church, Christ Church in Denton, was dedicated in 1874.³⁸

At the time of the Establishment, St. Paul's Parish was one of those created in Talbot (later Queen Anne's) County, and the parish church, located near Centreville, was known as "Old Chester."³⁹ St. Luke's at Church Hill began as a chapel-of-ease of St. Paul's Church,⁴⁰ but apparently became a separate parish at some time prior to 1748 for in that year an act of the Assembly created St. John's parish from portions of St. Paul's and St. Luke's and evidently included within the new parish all the area west of the Choptank which is today in Caroline County.⁴¹ In 1752 the first vestry was elected,⁴² and thus began the formal history of St. John's Parish.

During the colonial period Nine Bridges (now Bridgetown) was a thriving tobacco warehouse and trading center, and it vied with Choptank Bridge (Greensboro) to become the site of the parish church instead of Tuckahoe Bridge (Hillsboro). There is a local legend that a log cabin at Nine Bridges had been serving as a chapel-of-ease since 1640, but there is not one scrap of evidence "to substantiate this claim or to indicate that such a chapel ever existed."⁴³

The vestry of St. John's Parish apparently tried, by effecting a compromise, to settle the controversy between Nine Bridges, Bridgetown and Tuckahoe Bridge over the location of the new parish church which was planned to replace the less imposing one at Tuckahoe Bridge. During February, 1767, it held several meetings and finally decided by vote that the new church would be built on the road leading from Tuckahoe Bridge to Choptank Bridge, and that a chapel-of-ease should be built at Nine Bridges the "same size and dimensions as the church." Plans were accordingly made, but at a subsequent meeting of the vestry in 1769 "it was directed to build on 2 acres given by Mr. Thomas Wright at 9 Bridges the parish church & a chapel of ease at Tuckahoe Bridge as near as may be where the present church now stands. . . ."⁴⁴ There are evidences that the church at Nine

Bridges was constructed during 1770; for instance, on June 18, 1770 "John McConehens (?) agreed to build the Chapel at Tuckahoe Bridge where the old chapel now stands . . . to be finished by the last of June 1773—and a vestry house brick same size as at 9 Bridges. . . ." ⁴⁵ which indicates that the parish church was at least nearing completion by this date, and this is further borne out by an entry in the parish records that on August 10, 1770, the pews of the parish church were numbered. ⁴⁶

In a few years the Anglican churches were shaken to their foundations by the Revolution. Most of the clergy returned to England, and immediately after independence the church was disestablished, and it appears that the four churches in Caroline County barely continued to exist; the two churches of St. John's Parish suffered almost exactly the same fate as those in St. Mary's White Chapel Parish, which has already been related. In 1820 a representative of Bishop Kemp visited the parish of St. John's and reported: "There are two old churches in a very ruinous shape so much so it is thought they could not be repaired. One of them is at a place called 9 bridges and the other at Tuckahoe Bridge." ⁴⁷ In 1828 Bishop Kemp reported to the convention that missionary services had been extended to the churches of St. John's Parish, and that "the time is not far distant when this scattered flock will once more be brought back to Christ's fold." ⁴⁸ On May 14, 1832 the last recorded vestry meeting was held at the Nine Bridges church, at which time a day was appointed for the sale of the brick of the chu.ch. ⁴⁹

But, obviously, the brick of the church was not sold for it is still standing, and after St. Paul's in Hillsborough (formerly Tuckahoe Bridge) secured a rector in 1844 he held afternoon services at Nine Bridges following the morning services at Hillsborough. In 1850 a committee of the vestry of St. John's Parish was appointed to obtain such information as it could regarding the church at Bridgetown (formerly Nine Bridges). ⁵⁰ In 1850 the parish petitioned for a reunion with the convention which was granted, ⁵¹ and a new church was constructed at Hillsborough and dedicated in 1858—it still serves as the parish church.

Another sect which appeared in what is today Caroline County during the early part of the eighteenth century was the Society of Friends, or Quakers. In 1727 the records of Third Haven Monthly Meeting (Easton), which was established in 1676, indicate that regular meetings were then being held at Marshy Creek Meeting, and thirty years later Third Haven ordered the several weekly meetings to raise money to assist in building a new meeting house for the Marshy Creek Meeting; this meeting house was built in 1764 (near Preston) and was used by the Friends until 1849 when a new meeting house was constructed within the present boundaries of Preston. In 1794 a preparatory meeting was organized at Northwest Fork (Federalburg) and in 1799 a monthly meeting was established there with preparatory meetings at Marshy Creek and Bridgetown (Greensboro)—the meeting house at Bridgetown, the second in the county, was completed in 1795.

In 1797 the Nicholite Friends—followers of Joseph Nichols, who taught a stricter discipline and greater piety—settled on Marshyhope Creek. When, about 1817, the Nicholites merged with the Third Haven Meeting they transferred their three meeting houses—Center (near Preston), Tuckahoe Neck (near Denton) and Northwest Fork (now Pine Grove) ⁵² to the monthly meeting.

It has been established that a Roman Catholic mission existed in the vicinity of Denton prior to the erection of the county; it is believed that priests came from Bohemia Manor in Cecil and from Old St. Joseph's in Talbot to serve the mission. It is also known that a Roman Catholic church existed in Denton in 1831,

land having been deeded for such purpose in 1824; the original church was replaced by the present structure in 1890.⁵³

Shortly before the Revolution Methodism swept over Maryland, and it appears that Caroline County was fertile ground for its reception. Although the teachings of John Wesley had penetrated the Eastern Shore as early as 1770 it was not until about 1776 that Freeborn Garretson of Kent Circuit arrived in Caroline to form the first Methodist Societies.⁵⁴ This dynamic preacher was successful in proselyting large numbers of Anglicans, and laying the foundation for later circuit-riders and preachers; there is no evidence that he was ever persecuted in Caroline County, as he was in the neighboring counties of Kent and Dorchester, for his missionary zeal.⁵⁵ Undoubtedly, this is an indication that the simple faith of the Methodists was well received by the sturdy, unpretentious people of Caroline County. The exodus from the Anglican churches, coming so soon after disestablishment, came near obliterating them, as has already been pointed out.

Francis Asbury, destined to become the first bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church in America, preached a funeral sermon at Nine Bridges on December 22, 1777, but there is definitive proof that this church served the Protestant Episcopal communicants as late as 1844. Apparently at some time between 1844 and 1887 the title to the church at Bridgetown passed to the Methodists, for in the latter year records of the Methodist Church show a contribution by a native of the Bridgetown neighborhood to renovate the church.⁵⁶

Hence the first Methodist chapel in Caroline County was Tuckahoe Chapel near the present town of Hillsboro.⁵⁷ Frazier's Chapel (near Preston) and the one at Choptank Bridge (Greensboro) likely were built before 1790—Asbury frequently preached at all these.⁵⁸ In 1804 a Methodist Church was built at Concord, where, from 1857 until recent years, a camp meeting was held annually.

Despite the lack of statistical information it seems safe to assume that by the beginning of the nineteenth century the population of Caroline County was predominantly Methodist, with the Quakers probably making up the second largest group, and the Roman Catholics and Episcopalians being only small minority groups.

The record of Thomas Culbreth of Caroline County, Representative in the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Congresses of the United States, may be some indication of the political views of the people during the first quarter of the 19th century. He advocated the abolition of the slave trade, freedom of press, and reduction of departmental expenses; he favored the position of the North in the Fugitive Slave Law controversy, expressed sympathy for Spain's rebellious colonies, and approved appropriations for West Point. He opposed the admission of Missouri as a slave state, reduction of the standing army, and free trade.⁵⁹ Culbreth was a Democrat, but his record seems to be more in line with the Whig philosophy of the day; however, the paradox can likely be better explained by the trends of the times within his baliwick.

It has previously been pointed out that the institution of slavery did not make much headway in Caroline County, even before the Revolution, but during the next half-century its decline was rapid, as shown by the following table:⁶⁰

<i>Year</i>	<i>Slaves</i>	<i>Free Colored</i>	<i>White</i>	<i>Total</i>
1790	2,057	421	7,023	9,501
1820	1,574	1,390	7,144	10,108
1840	768	1,727	5,373	7,868

The most probable cause for the spectacular decline—by two-thirds in fifty years—was the type of agricultural economy which had developed in Caroline County. Since the area was not settled until the latter days of the colonial period neither the manorial system nor its successor, the plantation system, made much headway. Instead, the area was largely settled by the small-farmer group which found geographical conditions ideally suitable for a small-farm economy. Within the frame of such an economy the need for slave labor was negligible.

Another factor which contributed to the decline of slavery was religion. The Quakers, strongly intrenched in Caroline, opposed all facets of the institution of slavery as a basic tenet of their faith, as did the Methodists.⁶¹ Undoubtedly, the zeal of the two dominant religious bodies in the county played a vital part in turning public opinion against the institution of slavery.

Whatever the reason—religious, economic or political—large numbers of slaves were manumitted between 1790 and 1860. Beginning in 1807, and continuing until November 10, 1863, each manumitted slave had his certificate of freedom recorded at the Court House;⁶² many of them were freed under provisions of wills dating back into the eighteenth century.

Overwhelmingly free, Caroline County naturally opposed slave trading. But of course there was some illicit traffic. The most notorious traders on the Eastern Shore were Patty Cannon and her son-in-law, Joe Johnson; they were intimately connected with the illicit traffic in Caroline County.

Patty Cannon and Joe Johnson kept a tavern at Johnson's Cross Roads (now Reliance), on the border of Sussex County, Delaware and Dorchester and Caroline counties; it was twenty miles from a court house and ten miles from a town of any size. Under the steeply sloping roof of the tavern was a concealed garret which served as a pen for the slaves and freemen who were kidnapped by her gang for sale in the South. Also scattered about the counties where they operated were hiding places where her agents hid the captives until they could be taken to the tavern at Johnson's Cross Roads or sold South.⁶³ The tavern in Federalsburg is thought to have been such a hiding place. A local historian says:

It was no secret in those days to tell of the tavern as a link in the Patty Cannon chain of slave cages. It was well-known that the notorious slave trader touched at the hotel before the mysterious disappearance of colored people from the 'berg settlement.⁶⁴

Massy Fountain of Bridgetown was an acknowledged slave trader, and there are some who claim that he was one of Patty Cannon's gang, but there is no evidence to prove such charges.⁶⁵

Patty Cannon and Johnson kept out of the clutches of the law for a number of years,⁶⁶ but their past caught up with them when the skeleton of a man, whom they had robbed and murdered some twenty years previously, was discovered on their land. She and Johnson received a tip-off of the impending arrest, and Johnson fled, but Patty Cannon remained to face the authorities alone. The Maryland authorities joined with those of Delaware to effect her arrest. She was taken to Georgetown (Sussex County, Delaware) jail to await trial, but before it was held she committed suicide by taking poison.⁶⁷

Until 1864, the educational system in Caroline County consisted of a number of schools receiving some state aid, as doled out by county authorities, but largely supported by private contributions and tuition fees. In cases where students were unable to pay their tuition, it was paid to the teacher by the county from school

funds.⁶⁸ In 1840 there were 455 persons over 20 years of age in Caroline County who were illiterate; there were 23 primary and common schools with 444 students (164 attended at public charge), and one academy or secondary school⁶⁹ at Hillsborough (the one at Denton was not completed until around 1845). At least as late as 1830 "vocational education" was provided by resort to the colonial institution known as indenture. In that year indentures are recorded for apprenticeships to a tanner, a carpenter and joiner, and to a coach and carriage maker, each to run until the apprentice reached the age of twenty-one.⁷⁰

By 1840 the economic life of Caroline County was well established. When the Sixth Census was taken in that year the total population was 7,806 persons. Agriculture was the major livelihood with 1,589 persons engaged in it; 58 were engaged in manufacturing and trades; 56 in commerce; 29 in river navigation; 13 in mining; and 2 in the "learned professions and engineering."⁷¹

The agricultural output of that year indicates the diversified nature of the industry—not a single pound of tobacco was raised. There were 5,678 head of cattle, 1,905 horses and mules, 9,379 swine, and from the 5,112 sheep 5,170 pounds of wool was sheared. The estimated value of poultry was \$4,189.00; dairy products were valued at \$9,087.00; and the fruits of the orchard at \$315.00. Indian corn was the largest single crop—there being 269,375 bushels produced; there were 53,725 bushels of oats, 24,844 bushels of wheat, and 19,271 bushels of rye, 13,897 bushels of potatoes raised, and the value of home/family-made goods was estimated to be worth \$3,446.00.

When, in 1840, a farmer wanted flour he took his own grain to one of the ten grist mills; if he needed lumber he took his own logs to one of the thirteen sawmills; or if he needed leather he took his own hides to the one tannery which employed two persons and represented a capital investment of \$1,200.00. Six men were employed in furniture manufacturing with a capital investment of \$2,000.00. There were fifty retail stores representing a total capital investment of \$128,550.00.

Despite the fact that Caroline was the "inland county," \$2,500.00 was the estimated value of ships that had been built during the period covered by the census, and 520 barrels of pickled fish had been produced, apparently by the twenty-nine persons listed as employed in fishery production.⁷²

From these figures it is quite apparent that the economy of the county was largely based on a diversified agriculture and its allied industries.

Because there are but few extant copies of the several newspapers which made their appearance in the county in the ante-bellum era, it is difficult to assess their influence.⁷³ *The Caroline Intelligencer* was the first newspaper published in Caroline County; it was issued at Hillsboro in 1831 by Lucas Bros. From 1835 to 1837 the *Caroline Advocate* was published in Denton. For three years the county was without a paper until *The Pearl* made its first appearance in the county seat in 1840.⁷⁴

In 1845 the *Denton Journal* was established, followed in 1850 by the *Denton Star* which lasted only a few months. The *Maryland Sentinel* also died after a short existence in Denton in 1853. The *American Union* was established at Denton in 1860 as the mouthpiece of the Republican party. The *Journal* advocated the Democratic cause.

From 1836 until 1851 the major political issues in Maryland centered around the question of adopting a new constitution to supersede the one of 1776 which was undemocratic to the extreme, and under which successive legislatures had

spent so recklessly for internal improvements and aids to private corporations that the state's credit was badly impaired.

Although the smaller counties, and particularly those of the Eastern Shore, stood to gain from any checks against the reckless use of the state's credit, they generally opposed the calling of a convention lest changes be made regarding representation in the Assembly, and in the slavery laws. After long debate, controversy, and compromise the Assembly of 1849 submitted to vote on May 8, 1850 the question of calling a convention.⁷⁵ Caroline voted with the majority in favor of calling it.

The Convention threw limitations around all three branches of the government—it was an attempt to bring elected officials more nearly under popular control. When submitted for approval on June 4, 1851 Caroline again voted with the majority favoring approval.⁷⁶ Throughout the controversy preceding and following the Convention, as well as in the Convention, there is no indication that Caroline took any more than a passive attitude.

By 1859 the Whig party had ceased to exist in Caroline County, and its members had aligned themselves with the Democrats or Americans.⁷⁷

Although the total number of slaves in Caroline County in 1860 was only twenty-nine less than it had been in 1840, the ratio of slaves to the population had decreased considerably during the twenty year period, as shown by the following table:⁷⁸

Year	Slaves	Free Colored	White	Total
1840	768	1,727	5,373	7,868
1860	739	2,786	7,604	11,129

The returns of the presidential election of 1860 clearly show that, even though Caroline County was anti-slavery in sentiment, it did not support abolition. In that election Lincoln, standing for abolition on the Republican platform, received only 12 votes out of a total of 1440 cast in the county for the four candidates.⁷⁹ Maryland's electoral vote was cast for Bell, the Democratic nominee, favoring the *status quo* of slavery. However, Lincoln was elected and the very fact of his election was the signal for the Southern States to start seceding from the Union.

Undoubtedly, there were many citizens of Caroline who sympathized with the Confederacy, but the bulk of available evidence points to the conclusion that once the die was cast Caroline gave almost wholehearted and steadfast support to the Union. It has been argued in the past that this was due to the presence of the federal troops that were stationed within the county, but much of the evidence belies that conclusion.

In the first place, by October 15, 1862 when the first draft was put into effect, 231 Caroline men had enlisted thereby requiring that only fifty-six be drafted in order to fill the county's quota of 304.⁸⁰ In a subsequent draft in 1864 Caroline furnished additional men, and some enlistment took place throughout the war. Without doubt, some Caroline men enlisted in the Confederate Army, but the mere fact that only two are known to have done so⁸¹ indicates that the total number was small.

In all, four companies of volunteers, D (Greensboro section), E (Preston section), F (Denton section), and G (Federalsburg section), were raised, and became a part of the 1st Eastern Shore Regiment of Infantry. The Regiment was assigned

special duty on the Eastern Shore; it joined with General Lockwood's Brigade and participated in the pacification of the Eastern Shore counties of Virginia. On July 3, 1863 it went into action with the 12th Army Corps on Culp's Hill at the Battle of Gettysburg where it did good service. Later it did duty on the upper Potomac before it was returned to the Eastern Shore for another tour of special duty prior to being consolidated with the 11th Regiment of Infantry, Maryland Volunteers.⁸²

Caroline County also indicated steadfastness in support of the Union in the election of 1864, as Lincoln carried the county 728 to 271 for McClellan.⁸³ In that same year Caroline voted in favor of calling a constitutional convention for the primary purpose of providing for the emancipation of the slaves, and it elected a solid Union delegation to the Convention.⁸⁴

When the Constitution drafted by the Convention was submitted to the voters for approval, Caroline cast 471 votes "for" and 423 "against." Admittedly this was a slight majority, but in comparison with the neighboring counties of Queen Anne's (220 "for," 1,577 "against"), Talbot (430 "for," 1,020 "against"), Dorchester (449 "for," 1,486 "against"), and even Worcester (486 "for" and 1,666 "against") it was a victory for the Unionists.

The soldier vote carried the Constitution. Many charges of corruption have been made concerning both the regular and soldier vote, but few have ever been proven.

Regarding corruption in counting the regular vote in the county, the *Denton Journal* asserted that whereas eighty-nine voters certified they had voted against the Constitution, only forty seven were so recorded.⁸⁵ The implication was that federal troops dominated the election and saw that results were counted favorably toward the Union, but the fact must be considered that federal troops were stationed in all the other Eastern Shore counties and yet overwhelming majorities were recorded against the ratification of the Constitution. Caroline's vote cannot therefore be explained entirely by charges of corruption and military interference.

At one time during the war a Union ship put in at Denton with a company of men who made an attempt to round-up several of the outstanding Southern sympathizers, but the expedition was entirely unsuccessful from the military point-of-view. In 1864, however, A. G. Gullett, the editor of the *Journal*, was arrested and imprisoned. While he served his sentence, the paper passed into other hands.⁸⁶

Following the war reaction set in which culminated in the calling of another constitutional convention in 1867. Controlled by the Democrats, it not only abolished the objectionable features of the Constitution of 1864, but most of the reform features as well. When the new Constitution of 1867 was submitted for approval, Caroline once again voted with the majority and cast 832 votes favoring ratification and 328 votes in disapproval.⁸⁷ The majority in Caroline County was nothing like as large as it was in the neighboring counties.

Therefore, it does appear that Caroline County, throughout the Civil War period, was far more pro-Union than her geographical location would indicate. Probably this can be largely explained by the social, religious and economic mores which had evolved from the small-farmer, Methodist-Quaker element which comprised the majority of the population.

No one factor has been more instrumental in determining the location of the towns in Caroline County than transportation.⁸⁸ When Caroline County was erected the only sizable settlements were at Tuckahoe Bridge (Hillsboro), Choptank Bridge (Greensboro), Northwest Fork (Federalsburg), Nine Bridges

(Bridgetown), Murray's Mill (near Preston), and Potter's Landing (Williston); apparently the settlement at Pig Point (Denton), though designated to be the county seat, was small and undeveloped because Melvill's Warehouse farther up the Choptank was made the temporary seat of government. The mere names of these early communities are sufficient to show the major rôle that the facilities of water transportation played in the early settling of the county.

Since the only bridge to cross the Choptank was at Greensboro, the only one across the Tuckahoe at Hillsboro, and the lone one across Marshyhope Creek at Federalsburg, ferries were maintained by the county to afford transportation across the rivers at intermediate points. Such early ferries ran from Melvill's Warehouse to the west side of the Choptank above Denton, from Gilpin's Point to Price's Landing in Tuckahoe Neck and from Hog Island (below Dover Bridge) to the Talbot shore. By 1800 there was a ferry at Denton, and fares charged in that year were as follows:⁸⁹

Foot passengers	8¢
Horses	16¢
Two wheel carriage, horse and passenger	35¢
Four wheel phaeton, horse and passengers	75¢
Black cattle	12¢

These rates applied to non-residents not owning land within the county—to all others the use of the ferry was free.

In 1794 a new bridge was authorized to span the Tuckahoe at Hillsboro, and in 1808 a new one authorized at Greensboro; in 1810 a company was incorporated to build and maintain a bridge between Talbot and Caroline known as Dover Bridge, and about two years later a company was formed to build one at Denton Ferry, which was probably finished about 1820; this last one was a privately owned toll bridge until 1849 when it was bought by the county.⁹⁰

Hillsboro—It is a moot question which is the oldest town in the county, but the bulk of evidence points to Hillsboro on the eastern bank of the Tuckahoe; it is known that as early as 1694 there was an Anglican chapel-of-ease located there (presumably across the river in Talbot) which by 1752 had become the parish church for the newly created St. John's Parish,⁹¹ and from the designation of the location of the church as Tuckahoe Bridge⁹² it is known that the river had been spanned before 1750.

Although little is known of life at Tuckahoe Bridge⁹³ until the close of the Revolution, there is no doubt that from then until well into the nineteenth century it was the cultural center, as well as a leading commercial center, of the county.

Commercially Hillsboro was the site of a tobacco warehouse, one or more general stores, a shoe factory and a tavern, but its chief claim to fame lies within the spiritual and cultural fields.

It was the site of the parish church of St. John's Parish and one of the first Methodist Societies was formed there. This Society built the first Methodist meeting house in the county, known as Ebenezer Chapel, near Meeting House Branch. This chapel became the rallying point for Methodists from miles around, and was the scene of Quarterly Conferences presided over by Bishops Asbury and Coke. About 1838 the chapel was moved from its original site into the town.

In 1797 a private school was founded by popular subscription, and a brick building constructed. When in the next year the state provided for one liberal

school in each county, the school accepted state aid and became known as Hillsborough Academy. From then until 1878, when it was superseded by a county school, the Academy intermittently received state aid, thus making it semi-public part of the time. For a period, after 1806, the board of trustees of the Academy had the powers of town government placed in their hands; they passed an ordinance which imposed fines upon persons who enticed away or harbored any charity children in charge of the teacher or trustees.

As pointed out, the first newspaper to be published in Caroline County was published in Hillsboro in 1831 by Lucus Brothers.

With the coming of the steamboat Hillsboro enjoyed a faster and more convenient means of transportation. Although the larger boats could not navigate the Tuckahoe as far as Hillsboro, they made Wayman's Wharf, a few miles south, a regular port of call; smaller freight vessels came up to the town to discharge and load their cargoes. This mode of transportation was superseded by railway, (never an important factor) which in turn has now given way to the motor vehicle.

Greensboro—The date of the founding of Greensboro⁹⁴ was 1732. In that year the General Assembly passed an act which provided for the surveying of lands near the head of the Choptank, and the laying-out of a town to be called Bridgetown.⁹⁵

Apparently Bridgetown grew in population and commercial importance from the first. By 1767 the town was important enough to seek the location of the parish church, and by 1774 it put up a good case for its selection as the permanent county seat. Although it failed in both of these "booster campaigns" it was the scene of several sessions of the County Court, therefore it was the *de facto* county seat during the sessions of the court in 1778, 1779, and 1780. In 1791 the Assembly provided for an enlargement and reorganization of the town and changed its name to Greensboro, but it was many years before the two earlier names completely passed from usage.

As early as 1785 there was a Methodist Society in this town, and at some early date there was a Presbyterian congregation. In 1795 a Quaker meeting house was constructed. Although down through the years there have been several private schools, none has remained, but the public school of today can be directly traced to the founding of the first free school about 1816. One of Caroline's earliest doctors, Dr. Henry Rousset, settled in Greensboro in 1823.

Commercially, the Choptank afforded an accessible means of transportation for passenger and freight alike (oil and fertilizer barges still make Greensboro an occasional port of call). Like Hillsboro and Bridgetown (formerly Nine Bridges), Greensboro became a tobacco warehouse center; it had its general store and a tannery. With the coming of the railroad in 1867 Greensboro entered into a new era.

Federalsburg—Federalsburg is the outgrowth of a settlement which grew around the general store built about 1789 at the bridge on the Marshyhope Creek, later known as Northwest Fork Bridge.⁹⁶ It retained this name until 1812 when it was changed during a tumultuous political mass meeting held by the adherents of the Federalist party. To show their chagrin the Jeffersonians in the area continued to use the old name, or even the abbreviated version—The Bridge—for many years afterwards.

The road following the creek course had been established as the boundary

between Caroline and Dorchester, therefore the settlement which grew up around the store and bridge straddled the boundary—those living on one side of the main street were Dorchester citizens while those on the other side were citizens of Caroline. Obviously there were many disadvantages to such an arrangement. The dissatisfaction mounted until 1880 when the General Assembly received a



White Marsh Farm, Near Bethlehem, Caroline County

petition from every citizen of the town on the Dorchester side requesting that the boundary be redrawn so that the entire town would be in Caroline County. The petition was granted, and the county made a financial adjustment with Dorchester.

The first public school for the Caroline side was located on Tanyard Branch, while the school in the town served the Dorchester population. Following these early schools an academy was started which grew with the years and was the forerunner of the present high school. There was also an early school for Negroes taught at night by a white carpenter. The Methodist Church was organized in 1785 at a house which stood near the bridge; their first church building was erected in 1815. The Quakers established a preparatory meeting there in 1794, and the center meeting of the Nicholites was nearby.

It is more than likely that the first industry in Federalsburg was ship-building. The white-oak forests which surrounded the area furnished the principal materials that were needed for the industry. Since the settlement at The Bridge was too far up the creek to afford launching, it was not necessary to confine building activities to any one spot, but rather to build the ship wherever it was most convenient, and then float it down the creek on a scow to Brown's Wharf, a landing four miles farther down, for the launching. Some seven ships are known to have been built there before the industry passed into oblivion prior to the Civil War.

Other early industries of the town included a sawmill which sawed logs that

were floated up the creek on the incoming tide, a wool-carding mill and a grist mill. The Idlewild Mills, as they came to be called, were all owned and operated by the same "industrialist."

A sizeable trade in tanbark was developed. Local merchants would buy the bark which was cut in slabs and sold by the cord. Black oak bark had to be shredded before it was shipped, but other varieties were shipped in slab form as purchased. Spanish oak commanded the highest prices. In the Spring and Fall the merchants would load a ship at Brown's Wharf with bark and would return from a trip to the Chesapeake cities with seasonal stock for their stores. Because the source of supply was nearby and plentiful, it is not surprising to find that there was a tanyard in the vicinity at an early date.

Federalburg had a tavern which, judging from a description quoted earlier, earned itself quite a reputation. Even after the Civil War mail and passengers were carried by stage coaches which made daily stops enroute from Bridgeville, Delaware to Cambridge and Easton. In 1868 the railroad was completed as far as East New Market, a few miles over the border in Dorchester. This opened a new era for Federalburg.

Denton—Much of the early history of Denton has already been told. Following the Revolutionary War, and much wrangling with Choptank Bridge, land was purchased and surveyed in 1791 for the court house; by this time the name had been shortened to Denton. A map of 1791 indicates that the community had grown considerably in the interim between 1773 and 1791 for the map shows that there were forty-nine buildings, including some marked "shop," "store," "wharf," and "grannery."⁹⁷

About 1727 the village commissioners erected on the corner of the Court House Green an open building about thirty feet long to be used as a market; the upper story was completed by the members of Washington Lodge No. 59, Free and Accepted Masons, to be used as a lodge room.

The citizens of Denton did not show their zeal for education as quickly as their Hillsboro neighbors. Although land for a school was set aside in 1804 contributions were slow, and consequently it was near the middle of the century before the Denton Academy was opened. In 1887 the County Commissioners authorized the first high school in the county to be built in Denton.

The first church in the Denton area was the Anglican chapel-of-ease on Church Branch, and probably the next was the Quaker meeting house across the river which was built in 1801. At some unknown early date there was a Presbyterian Church; in 1816 the first Methodist Church, Moore's Chapel, was built, and by 1831 there was a Roman Catholic Church.

Denton quickly assumed the air of a county seat rather than a commercial town such as Federalburg; it has never boasted of its industries—in fact what is thought to be its first factory, a plow factory, was not built until about 1835, and it was not until 1868 that a grist mill was built, only to be discontinued in a few years because of power difficulties. The business section of the town, consisting of several stores, a hotel, and a rum shop which was beneath a cotton and flax storeroom was destroyed by fire on July 4, 1863. The fire was started when a sky-rocket, shot off by the Union troops guarding the town in celebration of independence, landed on the roof of the cotton and flax storeroom.

The *Denton Journal* is now over one hundred years old. For over seventy-five years the same family has been associated with it in the capacities of owner, publisher and editor.

Another mark of a county seat town is the concentration of members of the bar. Although the 1840 census reported only one person practicing "the learned professions and engineering," a sizeable number of persons were practicing law in Denton by 1859.⁹⁸

At the present time there is only one hotel in Denton, the successor to the tavern known to have been in existence as early as 1775 when the County Court ruled that "the tavern keeper maintain good rules and order and do not suffer loose, idle, or disorderly persons to tittle, game or commit any disorders or other irregularities in his ordinary."⁹⁹ However, in 1859, there were several hotels, advertised in the *Journal*,¹⁰⁰ serving the county seat.

The county's first bank was founded in Denton in 1813 when the General Assembly chartered the Bank of Caroline with a capital of \$200,000.00.

Transportation has always been a major problem for Denton. About 1850 the first steamboat reached Denton, and from then until well into the twentieth century Denton had access to Baltimore and intermediate points along the Choptank; freight boats also made Denton a regular port of call. Prior to the motor age the steamboat days afforded the town the best—as well as the most romantic—means of transportation. The coming of the railroad did not have the boom effect on Denton that it had on other Caroline towns for two reasons: first, it was not a commercial center, and second, the railroad line on which Denton (and Hillsboro) was situated did not reach important northern markets, it only connected with a steamer to Baltimore.

Nine Bridges—Even before the Revolution Nine Bridges on the headwaters of the Tuckahoe was such a thriving community that it felt strong enough to seek the location of the parish church of St. John's Parish within its bound, and when it succeeded in wresting this from Tuckahoe Bridge the building materials were transported up the branch by boat. It was the first incorporated town in the county.

Like Choptank Bridge and Tuckahoe Bridge it was a tobacco warehouse and trading center, and after 1830 until the Civil War was the center of Massy Fountain's slave-trading activities. During the nineteenth century it gradually lost its early preeminence, until today it is a quiet village without corporate status, known on roadmaps as Bridgetown.

Linchester—Murray's Mill was probably built about 1670 and became the center of one of the earliest settlements in the county; its importance as an early town is shown by the fact that the County Court licensed an ordinary, and the first church in St. Mary's White Chapel Parish was established nearby. Flour from the mill was loaded on scows and then reloaded on ships anchored in deeper waters to be shipped far and wide—Revolutionary troops were supplied by this mill. But with the changes of time Linchester, as it is presently called, lost its former prominence and today is, like Bridgetown and Williston, only one of the many quiet villages which dot Caroline county.

Williston—Williston¹⁰¹ is the present name for what was before the Revolution known as Potter's Landing. During the Revolution it was a supply depot and likely the site of a militia drill field; before 1778 a mill was in operation, and at one time it boasted an ordinary, a tannery and the usual general store. From its very beginning Potter's Landing was an important shipping center. Although other towns surpassed it in most respects long before the twentieth century, it

continued to remain an important shipping center until the railroads usurped steamboat traffic—late in the nineteenth century two boats daily left for Baltimore. Williston's days of glory passed with the steamboat.

Preston—Around Bethesda Chapel, one of the earliest Methodist churches in the county—built before 1800—a settlement began to develop sometime about 1845. Until 1856 it was known as Snow Hill, but this caused endless confusion because there was already a Snow Hill in Maryland—much older and larger—so in that year the name was changed to Preston.¹⁰² A Quaker meeting house was located in the section long before Snow Hill was a reality. At a later time a German Luthern Church, where for many years services were held in both English and German, was founded to accommodate the large number of Germans who settled nearby. The German Church also maintained a parochial school where German and English, as well as the catechism and the three R's, were taught by the pastor. Apparently the first public school was opened shortly after the Civil War.

Until the railroad reached Preston in 1890, its development was slow because transportation facilities were inadequate; until this time Medford's Wharf (now called Choptank) was the shipping point.

Marydel—Marydel,¹⁰³ a small village in the northeastern corner of the county, was founded about 1850 and called Halltown; in a few years its name was changed to Marydel, which shows that it is located partly in Maryland and partly in Delaware.

Marydel enjoys two distinctions among Caroline towns: it was the first point in the county to be reached by a railroad in 1866 or 1867 when the line was extended from Jack's Bridge (between Kenton and Hartley, Delaware) to Marydel; and it was the scene of a famous duel in 1876 between James Gordon Bennett, the renowned editor and owner of the *New York Herald*, and Mr. Fred May of Baltimore, over Bennett's engagement to May's sister. Neither was injured, but honor was satisfied.¹⁰⁴ In 1867 the railroad which had reached Marydel the year before was extended through Henderson and Old Town (Greensboro) to Greensboro. The early life of both Henderson and Old Town centers around the railroad. The first houses in Henderson were finished in 1866 and the new village which replaced the earlier settlement at Melville Crossroads, took its name from one of the railroad officials. The effect of the railroad was so salutary on the Old Town settlement, then comprising three houses and nine persons, that in 1870 the name of the settlement was changed to Goldsborough (since shortened to Greensboro).

Steamboat service up the Choptank to Greensboro had practically ceased by this time; Denton was the terminal for all passengers and much of the freight from the northern and western sections of the county—this was the hey-day of sleek pleasure and freight steamers, including the famous *Minnie Wheeler* traveling between the Choptank River landings and Baltimore.

Ridgely—Ridgely has been described as a "dream city"¹⁰⁵ and certainly the description is an apt one when applied to its founding. A group of Philadelphians, under the name of the Maryland and Baltimore City Land Association, dreamed of planting a city which would unite the Maryland and Delaware Railroad and the Choptank River.

The site they chose, now the site of the town, was in the heart of a farming

area with no village nearby. Lands were purchased by the Association in 1876. Part of the tract included land owned by the Reverend Greenbury Ridgely who, after practicing law in Kentucky with Henry Clay, and serving as headmaster of a preparatory school in New York, and later as an Episcopal clergyman, had settled at Oak Lawn in the Oakland section. The site was surveyed and a map, dated May 13, 1867, was drawn.

This map not only covered the present limits of the town, but extended from the railroad to the Choptank River because the projected city was to have a fine waterfront, (with shipyards and manufacturing plants) as well as broad avenues and parks. At this time the railroad had gotten no farther than Greensboro, but the Association and the railroad effected an arrangement whereby the Association would supply the ties and the railroad would build the track; apparently this arrangement was carried out for the railroad reached Ridgely in 1868.

The dream was over within a year—the Maryland and Baltimore City Land Association failed—leaving, besides the railroad, a map, a station and a hotel, which, with two residences and two stores, comprised the town which had been named for the versatile Mr. Ridgely. The present plan of the town faithfully follows the map of 1867, except the two parks have been omitted and the boundaries are rather more restricted than those of the “dream city.”

At this crucial point in the town's history its fate was taken in hand by two settlers who had arrived in 1867 to engage in the real estate business. J. F. and H. S. Mancha had originally settled at Potter's Landing after migrating from Pennsylvania, but Ridgely with its railroad presented a more favorable outlook for their business than did Potter's Landing with its steamboats. When the Association withdrew these enterprising men flooded the country with advertisements telling the advantages of the town and surrounding community. Due to their efforts settlers came from states as distant as Michigan and Wisconsin before the end of the first decade.

The first school in the town was opened in 1872, but prior to this the children attended the school at the cross-road settlement at Boonsboro, about a mile toward Greensboro.

The first church in the town was the Methodist Episcopal Church, built in 1877—prior to that time the members of this congregation attended services at Boonsboro or Jumptown. Three years later St. Paul's Reformed Church was constructed. In 1886 or 1887 a Methodist Protestant Church—later abandoned by that congregation—was built, and in 1896 the Roman Catholic Church was dedicated.

During the first two decades, Ridgely's commercial life followed the pattern of an agricultural village. With few exceptions industries were not begun until after 1890.

Undoubtedly the advent of the railroads in the late '60s and the '70s did more to change the economy of Caroline County than any other single factor. It was faith in the railroad that held Ridgely together; towns like Greensboro, Preston, Federalsburg, as well as Goldsboro, Henderson and Marydel, which were without adequate water transportation facilities, found new markets open to them, and even Denton and Hillsboro found that by using terminals at Ridgely or Queen Anne they had access to other commercial centers, in addition to Baltimore.

The patterns established then have been continued to the present, even though the railroads have largely given way to motor transportation. Today, not a single town is served by a passenger train, and railway freight service has been severely

curtailed. But all the towns are connected with the commercial centers of the entire nation by a network of busses and transport trucks.

Prior to World War I agricultural and industrial development were closely related. The small farms which had become characteristic of the county, even before Independence, were well suited for intensive truck farming and dairying; the railroads opened up new markets in northern cities for vegetables, fruits, and milk, as well as the old reliables—wheat and corn. While much produce was shipped directly from the fields it soon became apparent that there were greater market possibilities with less risk if the produce was processed locally and shipped in cans. By the turn of the century practically every town, and even most cross-road hamlets, boasted at least one canning factory. Although canneries are by nature seasonal industries, they fostered such allied industries as basket factories and tin-can factories.

When refrigerator cars came into common usage the production of fruit, especially strawberries, became a profitable industry. Likewise refrigerator cars stimulated dairying, causing cooling stations to spring-up all over the county. To make refrigerator cars serve their purpose ice was necessary and each shipping center had its ice plant.

From the Civil War until well into the twentieth century much of the social life centered, as before, about the churches—it was the heyday of debating societies, home talent entertainments, strawberry festivals, excursions and camp meetings—all of which were usually church-sponsored. Men usually found a recreational outlet in horse racing, foxhunting, fishing, rabbit and quail hunting, or baseball. In addition to the early churches that have already been mentioned, there was a Methodist Church, and often two, established in practically every settlement in the county; an Episcopal Church was built in Greensboro in 1875; about 1900 a Brethern Church and a Holiness Church were built in Denton; in Ridgely the Brethern Church was built in 1898, the Baptist Church in 1909, and the Dunkard Church in that same year; in 1918 a Roman Catholic Church was built at Marydel.

In any effort to analyze the culture of any area at any given time careful attention must be given to the provisions that are made for education; the prevailing attitudes toward education reflect, perhaps better than any other criterion, the overall cultural pattern—whether it is progressive, reactionary, or *status quo*.

It has taken nearly eight-five years for the people to realize that the Constitution of 1864¹⁰⁶ was a far more progressive document in most respects than the one of 1867¹⁰⁷ which was born of partisan politics and post-war reaction.

The legislature of 1868 under the authority of the Constitution of 1867, abolished the office of State Superintendent of Education created by the previous Constitution, and once again put full control in the hands of county school commissioners who were to be elected; later they were appointed by the judges of the Circuit Court, and still later—as now—appointed by the Governor. At this point the public school system was put in almost exactly the same spot it had been in before the Civil War, but as the years went on, and public opinion demanded, the legislature re-enacted piecemeal most of the educational provisions of the Constitution of 1864. Finally, “realizing the inadequacy of the various school enactments prior to 1916 to meet the needs of the times, a well organized school law was that year passed. . . .”¹⁰⁸

After the first high school was established in Denton in 1887 Greensboro, Federalsburg, Ridgely and Preston raised their schools to the high school level. About 1910 a movement was started to close the inadequate one-room and two-

room schools and transport the pupils free of charge to a central, or consolidated, high school with adequate facilities and personnel; the first consolidated school in the county was opened in 1912 at Ridgely. By 1922 each of the other principal towns had a consolidated school serving its community.

During the Reconstruction period, much of the responsibility for religious, educational and civil instruction of the newly-freed Negroes fell into the hands of the Freedman's Bureau, a federal agency created by Congress. In order to provide such instruction in Caroline County a building that became known as "The Bureau" was erected in 1865 by the federal government a few miles south of Williston. This probably was the first Negro school in the county, but if it was the first, it did not remain the sole one for long. It appears that Negro public schools began to be organized shortly after 1866; a county School Board resolution of that year provided:

Resolved—that our Board appropriate the sum of one hundred dollars to each school for colored children that may be started in our county at such times as the Commissioner of the district where such school is located, shall report that the colored people of said locality are ready and willing and able to raise such other sum or sums as shall be necessary for building a school house after such model as shall be furnished by our Board.¹⁰⁹

That some Negro schools were in operation by 1869 is evidenced by the fact that the first payment of public school tax to Negro schools was made in that year.

In 1887 a community of Benedictine Sisters purchased from Allen Thorndyke Rice, the editor of the *North American Review*, his ancestral estate, "The Plains," near Ridgely. Here they founded a convent and boarding school for girls, which is still in operation.

Following the intense political activity generated by the war-time elections and two constitutional conventions the political life of the county soon settled, and once again local issues and elections dominated the scene.

For many years the *Denton Journal* and the *American Union* carried the brunt of partisan controversy, but in the late 70s both papers were challenged by a new political group which founded *The Caroline Democrat*. In writing of *The Caroline Democrat*, Mr. H. K. Tubbs says:

Political corruption and bribery, with their attendant evils, were shamelessly and openly indulged in. Discredited Democrats and Republicans, Fusionists, Reformers, Farmers Alliance, Independents, etc., in fact all who opposed the then existing political conditions desired their own publicity.¹¹⁰

Judging from the company they kept, the most likely reason the Democrats and Republicans who backed the *Democrat* were "discredited" is that they had dared to stand for honesty and progress against the party machines. *The Caroline Democrat* was published regularly at Denton for over sixteen years, but in 1894 the paper and equipment became part of the *Journal*.

In 1872 the first number of the *Maryland Courier* was issued at Federalsburg, and was continuously published until 1931. During this time it underwent a change in name to the *Federalsburg Courier*, several changes in ownership and editors. Until 1885 it was non-partisan, from 1885-1890 it supported the Prohibition party, from 1890-1897 it served the interest of the Democrats, and after

1897 it was independent. The *Federalburg Times*, founded in 1929, is independent in its editorial policy.

In 1880 the *Free Press* was started at Greensboro and continued publication until 1915. The *Enterprise*, begun in 1918 and continued until 1926, was the successor to the *Free Press*; *The Enterprise* supported the Democratic party.

The first paper in Preston was the *Preston Echo*, founded in 1866.¹¹¹ The *New Farm* appeared in 1886. The *Preston Times* was established in 1893; it continued until 1895 when it changed ownership and name to the *New Farm*, which continued to be published until about 1903. From 1906 until 1911 the *Preston News* was published there. The contemporary *Preston News and Bay Country Farmer* is in its fourteenth volume. For a short time about fifty years ago there was a paper published at Choptank.

In 1902 *The Caroline Sun* was founded at Ridgely and has been in continuous publication ever since, thus today it is the county's second oldest newspaper. *The Caroline Sun* has consistently been Democratic in its editorial policy.

Before the Civil War the county showed a remarkable degree of political independence, but from the end of the war until very recent years the county was practically a surety to go Democratic in any election. Nevertheless, the Republican party has remained as a strong minority.

The Spanish-American War in 1898 caused intense excitement among the population, but its duration was so short that there was little war-time activity within the county—no regiments were formed, no drafts called, no bond drives, but a score or so of the young men enlisted in established regiments elsewhere. But such was not the case in World War I.¹¹² By its very nature this war called forth all the resources that were available.

Manpower was conscripted on a systematic basis by the county draft board operating under the federal Selective Draft Law; there were some who did not wait for their "number to come up" but volunteered their services. The total number of men from Caroline County in the armed services was 366. Of these, twenty-five men and one woman lost their lives.

In order to raise money for the prosecution of the war the federal government floated five loans. During these five campaigns Caroline County raised \$1,905,650.00. A War Savings Stamp campaign brought in about \$400,000.00, and \$15,434.00 was collected during a drive for the United War Workers, while an auxiliary made up of school children, known as Victory Boys and Victory Girls, contributed nearly \$4,000.00.

The Caroline County Chapter, American Red Cross, was organized in July, 1917, with three hundred members and by Christmas, 1918 had grown to 2,418 white and Negro members and, in addition, 3,000 members were enrolled in the Junior Red Cross which had been organized in the schools.

There was a Food Administrator for the county who was charged with the responsibility of administering the rationing system and fostering voluntary conservation, and a Fuel Administrator to see that coal was properly distributed, to procure it for dealers, and to instruct them in their methods of dealing; a campaign was waged to voluntarily conserve gasoline.

A special session of the General Assembly in 1917 passed acts which created a State Guard, compelled idlers to work or fight, authorized volunteer firemen to act as county guards, suspended legal proceedings against those in the armed services, suspended the statute of limitations and judgments in favor of those in the service, and permitted absentee voting for persons serving their country in

the military service. It also created the Maryland Council of Defense, with a commission in each county having immediate supervision over organization, finance, public information, registration, educational propaganda, industrial workers, vigilance, liberty loans and saving stamps, conservation, and the maintenance of existing social agencies.

When the news of the Armistice arrived on November 11, 1918 the county was delirious with joy—business was suspended, prayers of thanksgiving were offered in the churches, and parades were held in every town in the country.

In connection with the Victory Loan drive on April 27, 1919, at least 5,000 persons from all over the county went to Denton. "Jerry's Coffin" and "Verennes Taxi," two war tanks from overseas, divided interest with an airplane from Washington, the first to come to land in Denton.¹¹³ Not only was this the first plane to land in Denton—and likely in the county—but it was the first plane that a large majority of the assembled crowd had ever seen. The landing of this plane less than six months after the Armistice seemed to be prophetic of the period between World War I and World War II. It was the herald of the mechanical age in Caroline County.

At no period in the history of the county did greater social and economic changes take place than in the quarter of a century following World War I; except for a temporary abatement during World War II because of shortages, the revolution is still in process.¹¹⁴ During this period the small-farm pattern was retained—in 1945 there were 1,776 farms—but the farms became mechanized and electrified.

Caroline is now one of the few counties in the state in which the four major branches of farming—grain, dairying, truck, and poultry—are conducted on a substantial scale. In addition to the technological advancements, and the addition of another branch of the industry (poultry), the scientific findings of agricultural research have been made available to farm families. In 1945 the gross farm income was \$7,558,000.00.

During this period several new industries were added, notably the manufacturing of shirts, buttons, plastics, and the processing of chickens. Canning has continued to be the major industry, and technological improvements have made it possible to increase capacity to such an extent that, not only can they handle the increased farm production, but have been able to centralize operations until the "cross-roads factory" is obsolete. Just as rail transportation made canning profitable, refrigerated motor transportation has opened new markets for frozen vegetables; one factory at Ridgely now packs most of its products in this way.

In 1939 there were fifty establishments manufacturing products valued at \$5,644,384.00. Nearly three-fourths of the county's non-agricultural employment is in manufacturing. In 1939 there were 278 retail stores in the county doing an estimated volume of business (in 1945) of \$9,523,000.00; \$6,815,000.00 was the volume of sales which twenty-four wholesale establishments had in 1939. In 1945 commercial fishermen caught 106,000 pounds of fish. Another major enterprise is the trucking business. Over 4,000 persons are employed in the numerous manufacturing plants, mercantile establishments and service enterprises.

By 1946 there were 7,217 automobiles for a population of 17,549 persons (according to the 1940 census). The motor age perceptibly altered social life.

The churches have ceased being the focal point of social activity. Group recreation, often church-sponsored, has given way to family and individual recreation, made possible by improvements in transportation. Farm residents, bene-



*Three Nuttle Plants, Above; With Main Plant of the
Nuttle Lumber and Coal Company at Denton, Below*

fitting from labor-saving devices and fast transportation facilities, now take active part in community life, as well as in the various farm organizations and clubs. According to the 1940 census there were 8,174 farm residents and 9,375 persons living in the towns of the county. The almost equal balance of the population between farm and town is evidenced in the social, economic and political life of the county, which is remarkably free from domination by any one element of the population.

Continuous improvements in education made feasible further school consolidation; at the present time there are five high school for white students, and one Negro consolidated (county-wide) high school located at Denton. In 1949 the Board of Education proposed consolidation of all the white high schools as the progressive means of solving the many problems caused by increased enrollment, higher college entrance requirements, and the increased need for more thorough vocational education for those not entering college. But, in face of bitter opposition—which largely stemmed from inter-town rivalries—the Board was forced to accept the *status quo* solution of enlarging the present buildings.

Politically, the county has changed but little from its post-Civil War pattern. The Democratic party has continued to dominate. However, in the elections since World War II the Republican party has shown a resurgence of strength—it is still too soon, however, to tell if this is a trend or a phenomenon.

On Labor Day, 1938 President Franklin D. Roosevelt addressed the nation over a nation-wide hook-up from a platform directly across from Court House Green in Denton. Although he was welcomed to the county by a bi-partisan committee, Roosevelt was interested in the defeat of United States Senator Millard Tydings and in strengthening the hand of one faction of the local Democratic party seeking control of the State Central Committee. This was the only time in the history of Caroline County that it has been visited by the President of the United States.

The period from 1940 to 1950 has been one of many changes. During the war years the county was fully mobilized in support of the war effort.¹¹⁵ Although complete figures are not available, the State Selective Service System reports that from October 16, 1940 to March 31, 1947 1,211 registrants from Caroline County were inducted into the armed forces through the medium of Selective Service.¹¹⁶ It is a certainty that the county has made a substantial increase in population and wealth during this decade, but, lacking a reliable census, there can be no definitive substantiation until the next federal census reports are available.

For one hundred seventy-five years Caroline County has played her rôle in the history and development of the Eastern Shore and of the State of Maryland—always displaying a degree of independence and progressiveness while revering the traditional.

While Caroline County is not as rich as many Maryland counties in the number of its historic homes—being an inland county away from “broad water”—the area still has many interesting and notable dwellings. There is Potter Hall, built in the early eighteenth century by Zabdiel Potter, a sea captain from Rhode Island. Originally his place was an important port of call, located five miles below Denton on the Choptank. The original small brick house is the kitchen of the mansion built in 1808 by a grandson, General William Potter. In 1847, Colonel John Arthur Willis bought the estate and the name of the port was changed from Potter Town to Williston.

One of the oldest buildings in the county is the Frazier Flats house, a spacious

brick dwelling built by Captain William Frazier before the Revolution. Located east of the Choptank River, above Dover Bridge, it is regarded as one of the finest specimens of colonial architecture in the area.

Castle Hall, a red brick house of four sections, was completed in 1781 by Thomas Hardcastle, member of a family prominent in colonial military, legal and military affairs. His father, Robert Hardcastle, had acquired the tract in 1748.

Francis Sellers, Esq., who settled in Hillsboro at the close of the Revolutionary War, built a large sand-colored brick house which still stands.

Other famous homes include: Plain Dealing, a half mile below Denton, which was built in 1789 for a county alms house and later remodeled as a private dwelling; Oak Lawn, in the Oakland district, built in 1783; Daffin House (Thawley House) in Tuckahoe Neck, built in 1783;¹¹⁷ and Cedarhurst, on the Oakland-Greensboro Road, built in 1782.

NOTES, CHAPTER LII

1. It is fitting at the outset for the contributor to acknowledge the aid given him in preparing this narrative by Mrs. Howard Melvin of Denton, the Ridgely Community Library, the Talbot County Free Library, and the Register of Wills of Caroline County. The unfailing encouragement and assistance of the editor, Dr. Charles B. Clark, and the contributor's parents have been deeply gratifying and immeasurably helpful. The shortcomings of the narrative can in no way be attributed to these persons who have given unstintingly their time, materials, and advice—any shortcomings are solely the responsibility of the contributor.

2. Francis Stark, "The Counties of Maryland: Caroline County," *Baltimore*, XL (1947), p. 12. Hereafter referred to as Stark, "Caroline County."

3. The Indian name for a water plant which abounds in this river.

4. Name of the tribe living by its banks.

5. Name of the tribe living by its banks.

6. Edward M. Noble (ed.), *et al*, *History of Caroline County, Maryland: From Its Beginning* (Federalburg, Maryland, J. W. Stowell Printing Co., 1920), p. 44. Hereafter referred to as Noble, *History of Caroline County*.

7. *Ibid.*, p. 44.

8. Swepson Earle (ed.), *Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore: Historical Sketches of Counties and Some Notable Structures* (Baltimore, Munder-Thomsen Press, 1916), p. 1.

9. *Ibid.*

10. *Ibid.*, p. 24.

11. *Ibid.*, p. 46. There are some indications, however, that Dorchester and Somerset were created simultaneously in 1666. Cf. *Ibid.*, p. 157.

12. *Ibid.*, p. 69. Thus that part of Caroline County to the north and west of the Choptank has been under the governmental jurisdiction of four counties since 1634, while that to the south and east has been under five different jurisdictions.

13. Noble, *History of Caroline County*, p. 23.

14. *Ibid.*, p. 23.

15. *Ibid.*, p. 26.

16. Anthony Eden, the contemporary British statesman is a direct descendant of Lady Caroline and Sir Robert Eden.

17. With the exception of three minor changes in the boundary between Caroline and Dorchester in 1793, 1878, and 1880 the boundaries of the county have remained as established in 1773.

18. Noble, *op. cit.*, pp. 18-22 *passim*.

19. Earle, *op. cit.*, p. 160.

20. *Ibid.*

21. *Ibid.*
22. Noble, *op. cit.*, pp. 5, 7-12, 63-67, 70-75 *passim*.
23. *Ibid.*, pp. 7-12 *passim*.
24. Razed in 1895 to make way for the present Victorian structure.
25. Local speech had previously shortened the proposed name to Edenton.
26. Noble, *op. cit.*, p. 12.
27. *Ibid.*, pp. 88-92 *passim*.
28. *Ibid.*, pp. 165-166 *passim*.
29. *Ibid.*, p. 166.
30. *Ibid.*, p. 167.
31. *Ibid.*, pp. 130-132 *passim*.
32. Hulbert Footner, *Rivers of the Eastern Shore: Seventeen Maryland Rivers* (New York, Farrar & Rinehart Incorporated, 1944), p. 200. Hereafter referred to as Footner, *Rivers of the Eastern Shore*.
33. In each parish there was located one parish church, but for convenience "branch churches"—called chapels-of-ease—were built near other population centers; the vestry of the parish church retained administrative control over its chapels-of-ease.
34. *Eastern Shore Parishes: Cecil, Kent and Caroline Counties* (MSS in Talbot County Free Library), Vol. I, p. 329. The early parish records in this volume and also Vol. III, subsequently cited, were collected and incorporated with a commentary by an unknown chronicler.
35. *Ibid.*, p. 331.
36. *Ibid.*
37. *Ibid.*, p. 325.
38. Noble, *History of Caroline County*, pp. 238-239.
39. Helen West Ridgely, *The Old Brick Churches of Maryland* (New York: Anson D. F. Randolph and Company, 1894), pp. 21-22.
40. *Ibid.*, p. 21.
41. *Eastern Shore Parishes: Queen Anne's and Caroline Counties* (MSS in Talbot County Free Library), Vol. III, p. 317.
42. *Ibid.*, p. 351.
43. Lloyd B. Troutman, *The Bridgetown Methodist Church* (MS in possession History Department, Washington College), p. 3.
44. *Eastern Shore Parishes*, Vol. III, pp. 554-555.
45. *Ibid.*, p. 555.
46. *Ibid.*, p. 556.
47. *Ibid.*, p. 566.
48. *Ibid.*, p. 568.
49. *Ibid.*
50. *Ibid.*, p. 573.
51. *Ibid.*
52. Noble, *History of Caroline County*, pp. 109-114 *passim*.
53. *Ibid.*, p. 118.
54. *Ibid.*, p. 114.
55. E. C. Hallman, *The Garden of Methodism* (Place and date of publication not given. Published at request of Peninsula General Conference of the Methodist Church), p. 12.
56. Troutman, *op. cit.*, p. 9.
57. Hallman, *op. cit.*, p. 122.
58. *Ibid.*, pp. 108, 112, 122.
59. Noble, *op. cit.*, p. 135.
60. *Ibid.*, p. 143.
61. Because the seventh and tenth conferences are described as "local in character" there is reason to believe that the Eighth Conference was general. Cf. Hallman, *op. cit.*, p. 15.

62. Negroes' Certificates (MSS in Office of Register of Wills, Caroline County Court House).

63. Noble, *op. cit.*, pp. 149-150.

64. *Federalsburg Times*, July 15, 1949.

65. Noble, *op. cit.*, pp. 150-151.

66. Johnson was once arrested and flogged in Delaware.

67. J. H. K. Shannahan, Jr., *Tales of Old Maryland: History and Romance on the Eastern Shore of Maryland* (Baltimore: Meyer and Thalheimer, 1907), pp. 65-80 *passim*.

68. Minutes of Meetings of the Commissioners of Charity School Fund, 1825-1854 (MSS volume in office of Register of Wills, Caroline County Court House).

69. *Sixth Census. . . of the United States* (Washington, Blair and Rives, 1841), Vol. I, pp. 200-201.

70. *Indenture Record, 1830-1835* (MSS in office of Register of Wills, Caroline County Court House), pp. 5, 11, 13.

71. *Sixth Census*, Vol. I, p. 201.

72. *Compendium . . . of the Sixth Census* (Washington: Thomas Allen, 1841), Vol. II, pp. 142-153 *passim*.

73. Unless otherwise indicated all data concerning newspapers published in Caroline County is from MSS by Harry K. Tubbs now in possession of Mrs. Howard Melvin, Denton, Maryland, or from George C. Keidel, "Early Maryland Newspapers," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XXVIII, XXIX, XXX.

74. Noble, *History of Caroline County*, p. 316.

75. Fletcher M. Green, *Constitutional Development in the South Atlantic States, 1776-1860: A Study in the Evolution of Democracy* (Chapel Hill, N. C., University of North Carolina Press, 1930), pp. 240-248, 272-276.

76. J. W. Harry, "The Maryland Constitution of 1851," *The Johns Hopkins University Studies in Historical and Political Science* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1909), Vol. XX, p. 182.

77. During the early days of the Republican Party it was variously known as American, American Union, Union, Unconditional Union and Republican. At this particular time, although the state organization was designated Republican, the Caroline County organization was designated American. See *Denton Journal*, October 8, 1859, p. 2.

78. Figures for 1840 are taken from Noble, *History of Caroline County*, p. 143, and for 1860 are taken from Jeffrey R. Brackett, *The Negro in Maryland: A Study in the Institution of Slavery* (Baltimore, Johns Hopkins University Press, 1889), p. 266.

79. *Baltimore Sun*, November 24, 1860. The vote in Caroline County was Breckinridge 616, Bell 712, Douglas 100, Lincoln 12.

80. Noble, *op. cit.*, p. 169.

81. *Ibid.*

82. *Ibid.*, pp. 170-171.

83. Scharf, *History of Maryland*, Vol. III, p. 642.

84. William Starr Myers, "The Maryland Constitution of 1864," *Johns Hopkins University Studies in Historical and Political Science* (Baltimore, The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1901) pp. 37, 39, 97-98.

85. Noble, *History of Caroline County*, p. 168.

86. *Denton Journal*, June 12, 1875.

87. Philip B. Perlman (ed.), *Debates of the Maryland Constitutional Convention of 1867* (Baltimore, Twentieth Century Press, 1923), p. 40.

88. Noble, *op. cit.*, p. 28.

89. *Ibid.*, p. 21.

90. *Ibid.*, pp. 32-33 *passim*.

91. *Eastern Shore Parishes*, Vol. III, p. 530.

92. This name was used until well into the nineteenth century when it was superseded by Hillsborough, which was later shortened again to Hillsboro.

93. Noble, *op. cit.*, pp. 289-293 *passim*. Most of the historical facts *re* Hillsboro have been culled from this source.
94. *Ibid.*, pp. 194-217 *passim*. Most of the historical data *re* Greensboro have been culled from this source.
95. For years afterwards the old name of Choptank Bridge was frequently used.
96. Noble, *op. cit.*, pp. 267-277 *passim*. Most of the historical facts *re* Federalsburg have been culled from this source.
97. *Ibid.*, pp. 224-240 *passim*. Unless otherwise noted the historical facts *re* Denton have been culled from this source.
98. *Denton Journal*, January 29, 1859 and October 8, 1859 contain numerous advertisements by members of the bar.
99. Footner, *Rivers of the Eastern Shore*, p. 189. An ordinary is the same as a tavern.
100. *Denton Journal*, Jan. 29, 1859, Oct. 8, 1859.
101. Noble, *op. cit.*, pp. 247-249 *passim*. Most of the historical facts *re* Williston have been culled from this source.
102. *Ibid.*, pp. 256-260 *passim*. Most of the historical facts *re* Preston have been taken from this source.
103. *Ibid.*, pp. 175-179 *passim*. Most of the historical facts *re* Marydel have been taken from this source.
104. Dueling was unlawful in Maryland and neighboring states.
105. Emma Grant Saulsbury, "The Founding of Ridgely and the Early Days of its History," *The Caroline Sun: Historical and Industrial Edition* (Ridgely, Maryland, 1912), pp. 1-21 *passim*. Historical facts *re* Ridgely are from this source.
106. *Debates of the Constitutional Convention of the State of Maryland, 1864*, Vol. II *passim*.
107. *Proceedings of the State Convention of Maryland to Frame a New Constitution, 1867*, p. 139.
108. Noble, *op. cit.*, p. 165.
109. *Ibid.*, p. 163.
110. MSS in possession of Mrs. Howard Melvin, Denton, Maryland.
111. See *Union List of Newspapers*, p. 266; and Frank D. Webb and Paul Winchester, *Newspapers and Newspapermen of Maryland, Past and Present* (Baltimore, 1907), p. 52.
112. Noble, *op. cit.*, pp. 230-346 *passim*. Historical facts *re* World War I are from this source.
113. *Ibid.*, p. 328.
114. Statistics used in this section are from Stark, *Caroline County*.
115. Because final reports of the various war-time agencies have not been released it has been impossible to get sufficient information on which to base an objective evaluation of their effect on the life of the county. Letter from Colonel Henry C. Stanwood, State Director, Selective Service System, dated September 26, 1949.
116. Stark, *Caroline County*, p. 15.

CHAPTER LIII

Wicomico County

By Charles J. Truitt*

FORMATION

Wicomico, the twenty-second and next to last of the Maryland counties to be organized, was brought into being at the 1867 State Constitutional Convention in the wake of the War Between the States.

However, neither the State Convention nor the war were contributing factors giving rise to formation of this new county. The motivating forces were expedience, economics and convenience.

The 1362 square mile area of southeastern Maryland lying south of Nanticoke River was divided between Worcester, having its county seat at Snow Hill, and Somerset whose seat of county government was Princess Anne.

The population of the northern section was growing at a more rapid pace than the southern part. For an increasing number of northern tier residents the journey by horseback or vehicle over difficult roads to county seats was long and tiresome, often consuming a full day each way even under favorable conditions.

The rising town of Salisbury had spread itself across the Somerset-Worcester boundary line, dividing allegiance and affiliations of Salisburians almost equally between the older counties thereby creating confusion and dissatisfaction.

A plan for carving a new county out of the northwestern portion had progressed to prominent political stature months before the Constitutional Convention met at Annapolis, May 8, 1867. Politically, formation of a new county meant reconstruction of existing political fences; loss of prestige and constituents for some politicians; for others the promise of a well-spring of greater political power with the new order of things. Rank and file sentiment found expression in vigorous opposition in the southern sections and aggressive favor in the north.

* Reporter on *The Wicomico Countain* (weekly), *Advertiser-Countain* (weekly) and *The Wicomico News* and helped found *The Salisbury Times* (evening daily) December 3, 1923, becoming news editor for both; 1927, became co-owner, co-publisher and managing editor of *The News* and *The Times*; 1932, author *Historic Salisbury* (Garden City Press); 1933, awarded Pulitzer Prize in Journalism at Columbia University for the year's outstanding example of reportorial work; 1936-37, supervised preparation Eastern Shore Counties material for *Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State* (Oxford University Press); 1937, sold *The News* and *The Times* to Brush-Moore Syndicate; 1939, secretary Salisbury Chamber of Commerce; 1940, manager The Peninsula Broadcasting Company (radio stations WBOC and WBOC-FM); 1949, vice president in charge of operations The Shore Broadcasting Company (radio station WCEM, Cambridge); continues in last two positions. Married; wife (Elizabeth G.) and two children (Jacqueline and Charles, Jr.).

The Convention had barely been organized at Annapolis when the new county issue was brought to the floor with petitions signed by several hundred proponents, countered by other petitions of opponents.

Intense feeling raging in the two counties was mirrored almost daily in convention proceedings until it threatened to delay, if not confuse, the business of writing a new state constitution. It was circumvented only when a general committee was appointed to study the issue and bring its report to the convention floor.

While this served to isolate the issue from normal convention business, in the two counties involved it was the signal for an even more intensified contest to align the inhabitants on each side. Several Worcester and Somerset delegates, divided among themselves, left the Convention to help solidify opposing ranks at home. Meetings were held in every town, hamlet and crossroads store.

Divided by Confederate and Union sentiment in the war but recently concluded, a far greater, more bitter, rift was now gripping the populace. Petitions continued to go to the Convention. By June 28 advocates had presented 1,199 petitioners' names, the opposiiton 1,117, and bitter debate was being waged in the committee.

Finally, July 17, a majority committee report was submitted to the Convention favoring a new county, subject to referendum of the residents within the proposed boundaries.

Opponents, in a minority committee report, recommended—and it was subsequently accepted by the Convention—that the new constitution being written provide that any new county formed should contain not less than 400 square miles and not less than 10,000 white inhabitants; nor should any change be made in the limits of any county which would reduce it below those two minimum conditions.

Proponents interpreted this as a move to defeat the new county proposal on the basis that the larger the area and population involved the more difficult it would be to get a favorable vote.

The Convention's adoption of both the majority and minority recommendations caused a paradoxical condition to be written into the Maryland Constitution. More recent geodetic surveys show the boundaries outlined in the Constitution by the Convention gave Wicomico five square miles less than the 400 minimum, left Somerset with only 378 square miles (46 of which is water), while giving Worcester 589 square miles.

Machinery and framework for Wicomico's formation having been prescribed by the convention, the special election of September 18, 1867, resulted in a majority affirmative vote and Wicomico County was born the following October 5.

ORIGINS

Natives never hesitate to inform visitors and the uninitiate the name "Wicomico" is of Indian origin and accent should be placed on the first syllable. The name, or a reasonable facsimile, appears first in Captain John Smith's journal describing his 1608 exploratory voyage into Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. Captain John Smith refers to the "river Wighcocomoco and on it a people (Indians) of 100 men." Thus Indians who inhabited the river shores became known as the Wicomico tribe. Early land patents, court and tax records contain many variations of the name which for more than a century has become standardized as Wicomico.

Other Indian names have survived and are perpetuated by towns and waterways, such as Nanticoke, Quantico, Wetipquin, Tyaskin and Waukawarkin (now Rockawalking).

White settlers came to the area now Wicomico County in the mid-seventeenth century; some direct from England and Scotland, others moved up from Virginia. Among the latter were a number of Quakers impelled by the desire for greater freedom under Maryland's religious tolerance.

Generally these settlers lived as peaceful neighbors with the Indians. Only once is there a record of the use of armed force. In 1667 Governor Calvert ordered troops under Colonel Vincent Lowe to suppress restlessness among the Indians following the murder of one Captain Obdah and his servants. The slayer, Wanamon, a Wicomico, was surrendered by Chief Abaco and executed at St. Mary's City.

This incident led to a unique pact between the Maryland Proprietary and Vinnacokassin, emperor of the Nanticoke Confederacy of Eastern Shore tribes. It read:

It is agreed upon, that, from this day forward there will be an inviolable amity between the Right Honorable, the Lord Proprietary of this Province and the Emperor of the Nanticokes, upon the articles hereafter to be agreed upon to the world's end to endure, and that all former acts of hostility and damages whatsoever by either party sustained be buried in perpetual oblivion.

With confidence in the protection of this pact, planters, tradesmen and craftsmen advanced farther into the interior. Their area of existence being gradually minimized, and harrassed by the more warlike tribes in the north, the national life of the Nanticoke broke up in 1748. The main body moved northward and finally settled near Brantford, Ontario, Canada, where some 200 descendants reside today. A smaller number settled along Indian River in Delaware. There the descendants retain their identity and until 1942 held an annual pow wow.

Into this region came the Purnells, Gillises, Whites, Winders, Handys, Brewingtons, Taylors, Truitts, Joneses, Turpins, Walkers and others whose descendants more than ten generations later comprise a majority of the inhabitants today. Some homesteads have been in the same family for more than two centuries.

In the area now Wicomico County, as elsewhere on the Eastern Shore, Christian religion has been deep-rooted from the early days of settlement by the Europeans. The motive prompting settlers to select this region for permanent homes was to enjoy here a haven of religious freedom which was denied them in the mother countries and other American colonies. Hence when leaders of various faiths sought to organize congregations and churches they quickly found receptive followers.

In 1683, twenty-five year old Francis Makemie arrived from the Presbytery of Leggan, Ireland, and the first year organized six Presbyterian congregations on the lower Eastern Shore. One of these was at Upper Ferry, on Wicomico River, six miles from present-day Salisbury. Soon a small church was erected and served the congregation until 1776 when it was moved to Rockawalking Creek. Meanwhile, prior to 1750 a chapel had been erected in Salisbury. In 1830 the Rockawalking Church was abandoned and the congregation merged with Wicomico Church, Salisbury.

Contemporary with Makemie's activities were those of Reverend John

Hewitt who was ordained by the Bishop of London to further the teachings of the Church of England in this region. He labored alone for that denomination until his death 16 years later. Following the establishment of the Church of England in the Maryland province in 1692, Stephney Parish was organized of Wicomico and Nanticoke Hundreds and "Greene Hill Towne and Pourtt"



(Photos by Perry-Pix, Salisbury)

*Candlelight View of the Interior of St. Peter's
Episcopal Church, Salisbury*

selected as the site for the mother church. This and a chapel of ease had been erected prior to 1711. The present Green Hill church was erected in 1733, 400 feet from the original edifice.

Among the early rectors was Reverend Alexander Adams, who served the parish for 65 years before his death in 1769 at the age of 90. For the greater convenience, a chapel was built in Salisbury in 1768-69, the predecessor of present day St. Peter's Protestant Episcopal Church. Reverend William Murray was rector for 26 years prior to his election as bishop of the Diocese of Maryland in 1830.

Methodism had its inception during the Revolutionary War period, when on November 11, 1778, Reverend Freeborn Garrettson first preached the doctrine in Salisbury. Of this meeting the minister wrote:

Enemies were raised up against me, who sent the sheriff with a writ to take me to jail. . . . I told him that I was a servant of the Lord Jesus Christ, and that if he laid a hand on me, it would be like touching the apple of his eye. He was afraid to injure me; and friends and enemies followed me to the next meeting place.

The following year Reverend Garrettson returned and reported suspicion was still rife, but a spy attending his meeting was so impressed by his eloquence he wept and warned his colleagues against harming the traveling minister.

After this incident, opposition appeared to have disappeared and Methodism was destined to acquire a larger number of followers than any other denomination. Methodist societies were formed in Salisbury and Quantico. At the latter place a log church was built in 1784 and in 1801 an "Old Red Meeting House" in Salisbury.

An introductory to the register of the Old School Baptist Church in Salisbury, which contains continuous records of the denomination since 1799 contains this statement:

Baptist sentiments were first propagated in this region by the pious and laborious Elijah Baker, as related in his biography. . . . Mr. E. Baker, it appears, first visited these parts in 1776; and in 1782 a sufficient number of churches having been organized they met at Salisbury, and formed themselves into an association.

Baker held his first meeting of Baptists on the Eastern Shore under a huge tree on the lawn of Dr. Richard Lemmon, in Salisbury. For more than a century thereafter members of the faith made an annual pilgrimage to this tree, which was destroyed when fire razed much of the town in 1886.

Other denominations are of more recent origin.

The situation of Salisbury made it a strategic center for overland transportation. Here stage coaches on north-south and east-west routes of the Eastern Shore generally stopped overnight, with the travelers being accommodated with meals and rooms at Byrd's Tavern, where the county court house now stands.

In 1858 Delaware completed a railroad to its southern boundary line, the present site of Delmar. Eastern Shore interests obtained a charter to build a connecting line through Salisbury to a fishing village on Tangier Sound called Somer's Cove, later to be named Crisfield—for John W. Crisfield, the railroad's president. It had reached Salisbury when construction was temporarily delayed by the Civil War.

Local interests now had transportation fever. The Wicomico and Pocomoke Railroad was organized in 1869, designed to provide overland connection for those two rivers. The road began operation with one wood-burning engine, a passenger car and a trailer for freight. These vehicles developed a habit of jumping off the narrow gauge track, at which male passengers would alight and lift the vehicles back onto the rails while women passengers picked flowers.

Eventually another locomotive was bought and fitted out with a short string

of cars. Without switching or signalling facilities this complicated operations, until General Manager Jake Henry found a solution. To Conductors Charles Marshall and Samuel McMullin he dispatched this message—which was preserved until recent years at the Salisbury offices:

Charlie will run until he meets Mack. The nearest to a station will back back.

Tales of the road's operation are legion. It is said that Colonel Lemuel Showell, of Berlin, principal financial supporter of the road, was wont to stage races between the Wicomico and Pocomoke and his favorite black mare from Berlin to Salisbury, a distance of 22 miles. More often than not the animal was the winner.

Local capital was again called upon to invest in another pioneer railroad venture—construction of a line from Claiborne, Maryland, to connect with the Wicomico and Pocomoke at Salisbury. The latter had meanwhile extended its road from Berlin to Ocean City. The Baltimore & Eastern Shore Railroad was completed to the Wicomico and Pocomoke at Salisbury in 1891 and, absorbing the latter, provided the first travel service from Baltimore to the seashore, including the operation of steamboats between Baltimore and the Claiborne terminus.

The backers had underestimated the liabilities and from the beginning encountered financial difficulties. It passed through several re-organizations and ownerships, during which the name was changed in 1898 to Baltimore, Chesapeake & Atlantic Railroad. In 1928 it was bought outright by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and operations merged with the company's other Eastern Shore lines.

The first so-called "school" within the present confines of Wicomico County was the Salisbury Academy, for male students, erected in 1818. Two private schools were operated for young ladies until after the 1867 State Constitutional Convention established the free school system.

During the first year 24 one-room school buildings were authorized at an average cost of \$325 per school. Teachers' salaries were established at \$80 for each of the four annual terms, with \$1.50 additional allowance for each student from 15 to 30 and \$1.00 per pupil in excess of 30 but not more than 50. This basic salary was reduced the following year and thereafter appears to have fluctuated from year to year.

Erection of the first high school was authorized in 1873 at a cost of \$1192. The same carpenters built desks, benches and other equipment for the two-storey structure for \$125.

Of the fifteen newspapers started in Salisbury, a daily and a weekly survive. First was the *Sentinel*, a four-page five-column folio, which made its appearance October 1, 1859, produced on a small hand press. It was discontinued when one of the publishers, R. Reese Morgan joined the Confederate Army. Out of the conflict over the formation of Wicomico appeared in 1867 *The Salisbury Advertiser*, with Morgan as co-publisher. It alone of the weekly newspapers continues publication.

Other weekly publications were: *The Bachelor*, *The Eastern Shoreman*, *The Times*, *Wicomico Countian*, *The New Era*, *The Peninsula Patron*, *The Wicomico Record*, *The Wicomico News*, *The New Sentinel*, *The Courier*, *The Advocate*, *The Maryland Tribune*, and *The Salisbury Times*—published since 1923 as an evening newspaper, daily except Sunday.

SALISBURY—ITS ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT

Salisbury is one of Maryland's older cities. Nevertheless one can seek in vain throughout the city today for landmarks or other physical features to indicate that it traces its history back more than two centuries.

It is a modern city of flourishing industry and trade which for the past three decades has been in the throes of growing pains. If there is any one thing that might help to date its founding, it is the narrow streets which appear to have been laid out without plan or design—certainly without consideration for the vehicular traffic that constantly congests the downtown shopping district. For in recent years Salisbury has spread-eagled its streets and buildings in all directions from the confined spot at the head of Wicomico River where the town was founded.

Salisbury Town was "erected" on paper by Act of the Provincial Assembly of Maryland on August 8, 1732, "... at the head of Wiccomoco River, in Somerset County . . . in the fork thereof, and at the landing called Handy's or Carr's Landing."

Commissioners were empowered to purchase fifteen acres of land, a part of a tract known as "Pemberton's Good Will" then in possession of William Winder, a minor. These fifteen acres were ordered divided into lots, numbered one to twenty, with provision for streets and alleys. Winder was to have his choice of any two lots. The others were to be offered to residents of the county, though not more than one to a claimant, within the next six months. After that any remaining lots could be purchased by non-residents of the county.

If at the end of eighteen months the claimant had not erected a building covering 400 square feet or more, his lot reverted to the town commissioners and could be sold to anyone else, to whom the eighteen months building clause also applied. Lots not taken up during seven years next after publication of the Act reverted to the original owner, William Winder, who was residing in Virginia at the time.

Though it was stipulated that records be kept and "lodged with the clerk of the Somerset County Court," diligent search of ancient county records and state archives have failed to reveal the names of persons acquiring the lots. If they were all taken up, some owners apparently failed to comply with the building stipulation, for more than a century later a plat shows some lots remained unoccupied and probably reverted to Winder.

The act further required "possessor of lots to pay one penny current money per annum to his Lordship (Maryland Proprietary) and his heirs forever."

The fifteen acre site thus laid out for Salisbury was bounded on the west and south by prongs of Wicomico River, on the east by what is now Division Street and on the north by a line south of, and parallel to, the present course of Isabella Street.

That the town was named for Salisbury, Wiltshire, England, there can be no doubt. Many of the large landowners of the section had emigrated from the vicinity of the ancient English city. The names they applied to early land grants show an intense desire to perpetuate in this country names familiar in their native land.

John Rhodes, who acquired 200 acres April 3, 1667, gave it the name "Salisbury." John Glass received a grant of 500 acres June 13, 1675, and called it "Wiltshire."

Other land patents near the head of Wicomico River bore such familiar

names as "Warwick," 400 acres to Roland Bevan, June 20, 1679; "Spring Hill," 1000 acres to Francis Jenkins, March 3, 1680; "Fairfield," 800 acres to Thomas Purnell, November 21, 1676; "Brereton's Chance," 300 acres to William Brereton (Brewington), November 10, 1675; "Kikotan Choice" 300 acres to John Winder, April 2, 1664; "Brickle Hoe," 300 acres to John White, August 23, 1679; "Chuchatuck," 1000 acres to Rott Pitts, October 28, 1665.

"Pemberton's Good Will," a portion of which was taken for erection of Salisbury Town, originally contained seven hundred acres, surveyed for John Winder September 3, 1682, and described as being "at fork in ye head of Rokiawalkin." Some early land records refer to Wicomico River with variations in spelling of "Rockawalking"—today the name of a creek emptying into the Wicomico a few miles from Salisbury.

Some portions of the original Pemberton grant had been sold prior to the erection of Salisbury. Upon the death of John Winder, Pemberton passed to his young son, William, who still possessed some of it as late as 1772.

The town's early growth was slow. When the Maryland General Assembly February 3, 1817, authorized a survey, the plat shows it had hardly extended beyond the boundaries of the original fifteen acres. Town Commissioners were empowered to survey anew the "roads, streets, alleys and lots."

There were three taverns, a banking house, some small stores and shops, all facing Bridge (now Main) Street.

A few years later Salisbury, which had been the crossroads of the Eastern Shore for more than a century, faced a crisis not of its own making. When the Maryland General Assembly on June 3, 1835, passed the "Eight Million Dollar Bill" for construction of six railroads in the state, the plans included one line on the Eastern Shore, extending from Elkton to the present site of Crisfield. It was surveyed and even grading and bridge abutment started, before the financial panic of 1837 caused abandonment of the project. The route of this projected railroad passed six miles west of Salisbury and had it materialized it is doubtful that Salisbury would ever have developed beyond the village size.

During this period some industries were flourishing in the Salisbury area that have long since become extinct. For years before the Revolutionary War the mining of bog iron had attracted local and outside investors who grabbed up thousands of acres of land, much of it through original patents. Forges and smelting furnaces were set up, about which arose many villages—now as extinct as the industry itself.

These mining operations appear to have been largely confined to within a radius of thirty miles of Salisbury, in what is now Wicomico and Worcester counties, Maryland, and Sussex County, Delaware. The largest operating company was formed in 1763 by Abraham, Thomas and William Mitchell, of Philadelphia, and Samuel Franklin, a New York merchant. Holdings of this company in the three counties were more than 4,000 acres.

Much of the iron smelted was shipped direct to England. Large quantities of ore was shipped out of the region by bulk, being hauled by oxcarts to the wharves and then by boats to Norfolk, Virginia.

The outbreak of the War of Independence, and the relatively small percentage of iron obtained per ton of ore, ultimately caused suspension of operations. Between 1812 and 1820 a serious effort was made to revive the industry. Several idle furnaces were re-opened but proved too expensive for results obtained.

Some years ago geologists, studying the soil in this same area, estimated there

exist 2,000 acres of iron ore in the northwestern section of Wicomico County, between the towns of Mardela and Sharptown.

At what is now East Main Street, Ebenezer Leonard, in the early 1800s established a tannery that became another flourishing enterprise of that era.

Nearly every stream, with sufficient water to turn the huge wheel, had one or more grist mills operating along its course. Today, 1950, three of these old



(Courtesy S. King White)

Fire-Fighting Equipment of an Earlier Day, Salisbury

buhr water mills remain in reasonably good operating condition. In his heyday, the miller's place was the center for neighborhood information, news and gossip—later relinquished to the rural general store.

Seine fishing for shad and shipbuilding, along Wicomico River, from Salisbury to Chesapeake Bay, flourished for more than two centuries, but are now reduced to a negligible industrial factor.

Cane mills to make molasses and ungranulated sugar from cane—grown on nearly every farm for the family's requirements—once considered an essential industry have completely disappeared.

For many generations social life in Salisbury and this region retained the influences of Old World customs and habits. Salisbury had its annual street fair at Whitsuntide, a custom attributed to the rebel emperor of Britain, Carausius, in 207 A.D.

From all parts of the peninsula—by vessel, stage coach, wagon and oxcart—families came to Salisbury for this event, which for children ranked second only to Christmas. Booths and tents sprang up overnight between sycamore, poplar and maple trees that lined the principal street. It was a time of gaiety for all ages—street dances, all sorts of homemade delicacies, persimmon beer, oyster pie, the

organ grinder with his trained bear or monkeys, a score of merchants from Baltimore offering latest styles in clothing and various household wares, vendors of imported novelties and trinkets. For rural folks accustomed to homespun apparel and homemade products, it was as though the mountain *had* come to Mahomet.



Pocahontas Fuel Company Yards and Tanks, Salisbury

From old England also came the town crier, as the disseminator of news, public notices, lamp lighter and errand boy. He was a messenger to distribute the invitations when milady entertained. As an advertising medium, he stalked along the streets, bell in hand, with such a cry as:

Hear ye! Hear ye!! All persons within call. A public sale will be held from the front steps of the tavern at 10 o'clock Tuesday. Come one! Come all!

The last to hold this time-honored post of affairs was James James, familiarly called Jim Jeems, a Negro of enormous physique. With his death more than half a century ago went a custom that once seemed indispensable.

Until near the end of the nineteenth century, Wicomico River provided the principal avenue of travel, chiefly between towns along the river and Baltimore. Until more recent years the river was not navigable for larger vessels to Salisbury, hence the harbor was located two miles downstream, known as the "Cotton Patch." First regular scheduled steamboat service was established between this point and Baltimore in 1852, the side-wheeler *Wilson Small* making the round trip twice weekly.

It became a local tradition that newly wedded couples should start their honeymoon with an overnight trip on the Baltimore-bound steamboat. Wedding parties always ended at the "Cotton Patch" for guests to witness the couple's embarkation.

SALISBURY—CATASTROPHIC EVENTS

Time mellowed landmarks that distinguish so many Eastern Shore towns are lacking in Salisbury because of two disastrous fires that on each occasion nearly erased the town. Its once-charming Colonial atmosphere was almost extinguished in 1860 and had entirely disappeared when the flames of the 1886 conflagration had died out.

It was a quaint village of about 500 inhabitants, not unlike those that dot the English countryside, at the time of the 1860 fire. Rambling white clapboard



W. F. Messick Ice Company Plant, Salisbury

storey-and-half residences with picket fences enclosed well-kept lawns; an occasional store or tavern invited the passer-by; low barns and stables peeked through the trees from the rear; branches of huge trees reached from either side to canopy the street; sometimes a few pigs, a flock of geese, or a mother hen and her brood would meander into the sandy street; and towering above it all was the steeple of red brick Goddard's Chapel bearing skyward its large gilded cross.

On a hot August day the sudden clanging of the chapel bell became the signal of impending disaster. Fire had broken out in a frame building on the main street a short distance from the house of worship. A score of men raced to the scene pulling the fire fighting apparatus. It was brand new equipment—a huge wooden reservoir mounted on high iron wheels, and had two hand pumps with which firemen drew water from the conveniently drilled town pumps along the street.

It was a valiant effort, but neither apparatus nor men were equal to the task. Flames leaped to adjoining structures and soon the town's principal street was a blazing inferno. At the end of the day all buildings along the street had been leveled. Even the fire "engine" had been consumed.

On Sunday, October 17, 1886, the rhythmic pealing of church bells summoning the townspeople to evening worship suddenly changed to riotous clanging—the signal that fire again threatened.



Wicomico Motor Company Display at Night, Salisbury

A blaze accidentally started in a livery stable on Dock (now Market) Street had gotten out of control. Fanned by a stiff south wind the flames spread to the rows of frame buildings nearby and rapidly began eating its way through the commercial section.

Since the destructive 1860 fire the town had purchased a new steam fire engine. Rushed to the scene it failed to work. The entire populace helplessly watched the flames advance so rapidly that not even furniture and personal effects could be rescued. Apparatus was rushed by special train from Wilmington, Delaware, but arrived too late.

Twenty-two acres in the very heart of the town had been devastated. The entire commercial section and most homes were completely obliterated. Of the public buildings only the brick court house, isolated by its spacious lawn, had been spared.

After this disaster Main Street was widened and all buildings were erected of brick.

SALISBURY AND THE WARS

Despite their close ties with the mother country—England—a great majority of the inhabitants in this area favored the movement for American independence.

Outspoken patriots became active through the Association of Freemen and fifty of them in Worcester and Somerset counties (Wicomico had not yet been carved from these two) signed the Declaration for Freedom which by several months antedated the Declaration of Independence. A copy of the Declaration is in possession of the Maryland Historical Society.

However, the sentiment was not unanimous. Local Tories combined with British Crown sympathizers from other colonies who sought refuge in the many waterways indenting the Eastern Shore. Equipped with barges and sailing vessels they set out to plunder river and bay commerce, pillage settlements and confiscate property of patriots. The menace became so great that appeals were made to the

Maryland General Assembly for arms and other military equipment to defend homes of patriots. Maryland has been stripped of these materiel in supplying the Colonial Army demands. By January, 1777, the Tories had grown to open defiance and a delegation was sent to the Continental Congress to request military protection.

On February 19, a company of Maryland militia, under General William Smallwood, was dispatched from Baltimore to Salisbury with orders to capture



Culver Motor Company, Salisbury

all non-sympathizers with the colonial cause. Upon arrival, Smallwood found the community had recruited a military body, which, though inadequately armed, had begun a roundup of Tories. A number joined the Colonial armies, others were jailed.

Most notorious of the Tories was a man of giant stature, Ben Allen, who led small bands of Tory robbers, pirates and plunderers on forays from Cape Henlopen, Delaware to Green Hill, Maryland. Legend has it that Allen, between expeditions, "holed up" in a cave on a tiny island in Humphreys Lake at the edge of Salisbury. Eventually captured, he was summarily executed by a firing squad.

The days immediately preceding the Civil War found Delaware in an internal political turmoil and divided in sympathy between the North and the South. The two counties of the Eastern Shore of Virginia were anxious to join that state in secession. Wedged in between were Worcester and Somerset counties (which contained the area later Wicomico) where sentiment was strongly divided and feeling running at fever pitch. Salisbury's position in the near center of this area became strategical, and from the beginning to the close of the war, troops were located here in varying strength.

First armed forces to arrive November, 1861, was the First Regiment, Delaware Volunteer Infantry, commanded by Colonel Henry Hall Lockwood, under orders to prevent an expected invasion of the Eastern Shore by Confederate forces.

Meanwhile, Major General John A. Dix, Middle Department, Union Army Operations, at Fort McHenry, Baltimore, issued a call for Eastern Shore volunteers. In a few weeks, Adjutant John E. Rastall, with headquarters in Dorchester County, had organized a full regiment of ten companies. By November (1861), the regiment was considered ready for combat, and was ordered to march to Salisbury. Two companies were detached to augment the troops of Lockwood (now a brigadier general) on an expedition to suppress an uprising in the two Virginia counties. The main body of the regiment set up permanent quarters in Salisbury, under command of Colonel William J. Leonard and, later, Colonel Samuel A. Graham.

From here, units of the regiment were dispatched from time to time to various parts of the Eastern Shore and Delaware, to disarm secessionists and prevent rumored plans of invasion by Confederate forces. Actions by the regiment were graphically described by Adjutant Rastall in letters to his family:

February 8, 1862: "We have had to send a detachment into Delaware. At Laurel a Secession flag is shaken from a second story window by a woman as we were marching past in the street. The colonel halted the column, made her surrender the flag, write an apology, the alternative being confinement to her room with a musket at her door to answer her calls."

Of another expedition by train into Delaware, the regimental adjutant describes a mutiny within the ranks. The train had stopped at Delmar, on the state line, when Company B detrained in a body, lined up, stacked arms, and broke ranks. A spokesman told the colonel the company had enlisted for service in Maryland and did not intend to leave the state. As organizer of the regiment Rastall denied the claim and was supported by the colonel—in more emphatic terms. Rastall continued his description of the event:

The colonel and I were alone with the men, some distance from the train, but the colonel drew a revolver and pointed at the spokesman, took him by the shoulder and ordered him aboard the train. The men were largely of the oysterman class, and I saw some ugly knives drawn. The colonel telegraphed to Salisbury for Company C to proceed to Delmar at once, and ordered return of B Company to its barracks.

Without awaiting the outcome, we proceeded with the balance of our force to Dover (Delaware) and marched to the Capitol building which we made our headquarters. We were coldly received and admission to the building refused . . . we forced entrance. We began an active search for arms among the citizens, entering a large number of private residences of those known to be disloyal (to the Union) or under suspicion. A number of prominent men were arrested . . . combed the city pretty thoroughly and captured a number of guns, etc.

Our presence in Delaware had created great excitement. A United States Senator had gone from one end of the state to the other, speaking from the rear platform of trains, denouncing our "invasion." The people were pretty thoroughly aroused.

The morning of our departure, the Capitol grounds were filled with citizens in anything but a placid mood. . . . I ordered the crowd back, and when I got the prisoners into the square, returned to the Capitol steps and at

the top of my voice ordered the soldiers to shoot any man who came within touch of their bayonets. We went down to the depot, the crowd following us—sullen and threatening.

Upon another occasion the adjutant wrote:

We have been moving about, disarming Secession companies. Got few arms. . . . Arrived at Dover at night and surrounded the town. Regiment was ordered to return to Salisbury, concentrate the troops and proceed to Drummondtown (now the town of Accomac), Virginia. Arriving at Salisbury we were met with orders to return to Dover. We left the prisoners in camp and returned to Dover. (This was the third such expedition to the Delaware capitol). There we arrested more Secessionists and they concluded to come to time and gave up fifty-eight Mince rifles with sabre bayonets. We then proceeded to Smyrna (Delaware). Took sixty prisoners there and now we are in New Castle to disarm a secret company. Have five or six more companies to disarm before we are through.

We have to keep on the alert. This movement is because the forces on the peninsula are ordered away and we are to eventually take their place and this action is to prevent fire at our rear.

By reason of such "alertness" on the part of this Eastern Shore of Maryland regiment in making quick thrusts from the Salisbury encampment to any point where Secession groups might be secretly organizing, possible pitched battles between Union and Confederacy sympathizers on the Delmarva peninsula, at the cost of an untold number of lives, was avoided. It was a strong factor in keeping Delaware and Maryland's Eastern Shore counties within the Union. Had this region seceded the Union Army operating in northern Virginia would have been without protection from the rear.

It was necessary, too, that communications lines down this peninsula be maintained, for at times this provided the only means by which military messages could be transmitted from Washington to Union forces campaigning in Virginia.

While there is no record of casualties resulting from clash of arms, the troops suffered an epidemic of black measles at the camp, from which many men died.

In World Wars I and II, Wicomico County contributed generously of its resources of manpower and other assets. To the former this county sent 1,239 men, 46 of whom made the supreme sacrifice; Liberty Loan campaigns in the county raised \$1,721,700; for the Red Cross, Y. M. C. A., Salvation Army, and other war time supplemental organizations more than \$200,000 additional, the total representing at that time more than half of the total resources of all county financial institutions.

Equally responsive was the county in World War II, though the records of participation of its manpower and resources have not yet been compiled for publication.

COUNTY TOWNS

The State highway stretches southwest from Salisbury and parallels the winding course of Wicomico River to its confluence with Nanticoke River 22 miles distant. This was the first section to be settled in what is now Wicomico County.



Farlow's Hatchery, Pittsville



Pratt Phillips Cannery, Salisbury

Quantico, 200 population, took its name from the creek, which in the language of the Indians meant "dancing place." The village sprang up around two grist mills, but today is chiefly dependent upon the productivity of surrounding farmlands. Before Maryland adopted primary election laws, political party followers were accustomed to gather at Quantico periodically for a turtle dinner and to select party nominees.

Wetipquin, 311 population, dates from 1684 when residents petitioned the Provincial Assembly to erect a town here on the former site of the Tipquin Indian Village "this being a most convenient situation for a town or place of trade and most frequented by shipping of any river in the said county."

Bivalve, 240 population, is of more recent origin, the inhabitants depending upon shell and fin fishing and farming for livelihood.

White Haven, 210 population, is the outgrowth of the first town projected by legislation in the present three lower Eastern Shore of Maryland counties. In 1668, the Proprietary by "special command" designated a port on the south side of Wicomico River, a mile north of the present town and on the opposite side. Settlers of the region thought the present townsite more adaptable and in 1708 the Maryland Assembly conceded to these views and incorporated the town. The thirty-foot depth of the river at this point has encouraged shipbuilding from its inception. Submarine chasers were constructed during World War I. The ferry across the river has been operated continuously for more than 250 years.

An unmarked site one and a half miles north of the town was the residence of Reverend John Huett, who acquired a tract of land called "Contention" in 1680. He was the first and, until 1696, the only Church of England minister in the lower Shore counties. After attaining the age of 21, he is reported to have received an annuity from the English Government as "compensation" for the execution of his father, John Huett, London minister and author, beheaded in 1658 for participation in a plot aimed at return of the Stuarts to the English throne.

Tyaskin, 200 population, also derived its name from the Indian language. Its inhabitants engage in commercial fisheries, catering to sports fishing and farming.

Nanticoke, 410 population, is a packing and shipping center for oysters, fish and crabs caught in waters of the region. Recently an increasing number of summer cottages have been erected along the waterfront and two miles to the southward is Waterview Hotel, popular for sports fishing facilities and boating.

Approaching Salisbury on transcontinental U. S. Route 50, the first town reached in Wicomico County is Mardela, 420 population. Originally called Barren Creek, for the waterway on which it was situated, the town later assumed its present designation representing a combination of the first few letters in Maryland and Delaware, due to its proximity to the state line the location of which was so long in dispute between William Penn and the Maryland Proprietary. Several attempts have been made to commercially promote the supposed health-giving qualities of the water which flows from a natural spring at the edge of town.

Sharptown, 400 population, on U. S. 313, occupies the northernmost corner of Wicomico County, favorably situated on Nanticoke River opposite Dorchester County. Shipbuilding was long the town's greatest industry, but more recently attention of the inhabitants have been occupied with manufacturing farm packages and agriculture.

Hebron, 550 population, came into being when the railroad arrived more than half a century ago to promote it as a shipping point for the surrounding productive farmlands. Manufacturing has also provided employment for a sizeable segment of inhabitants.

East of Salisbury, U. S. Highway 50, passes through a farming section devoted to truck crops and lately a more remunerative industry of broiler raising.

Parsonsborg, 211 population, is the home of one of the world's largest broiler chick hatcheries. When the railroad came through the village was named for the prominent Parsons family. Nearby, the highest point in the region between Salisbury and the seashore shapes up into a small hill from which has been excavated Indian relics giving rise to the belief that it was once an Indian burial mound.

Pittsville, 317 population, for years was one of the nation's largest strawberry producing sections. Inhabitants of the vicinity have also turned to the recently developed broiler-raising business. Here too is a large processing plant for Christmas greens—holly wreaths, laurel and crow's feet ropes, and other decorations shipped to cities throughout the country for weeks prior to Christmas. It was named for William Pitts, once president of the Wicomico & Pocomoke Railroad.

Willards, 317 population, was named for Willard Thompson, of Baltimore, an executive of the railroad that served the town. This, too, has made poultry-raising secondary to the once dominating strawberry and truck crops. Nearby woodlands have long supplied raw materials for its lumber mill.

Powellville, 180 population, on a state highway south of Willards, also bears the name of a prominent family of the vicinity. It once proudly boasted of its grist, lumber and sugar cane mills.

Delmar, 2,018 population, straddling the Delaware-Maryland boundary line, was but woodland when the Delaware railroad was completed southward to that point in 1858 and attained greater prominence when a connecting line was constructed to the southern end of the peninsula. It has always been the terminus, where trains changed crews and therefore "railroading" has been its basic industry. The postoffice, railroad station and car barns, however, are on the Delaware side.

Fruitland, 1,100 population, on U. S. Highway 13 south of Salisbury, has experienced much of its growth in recent years as an industrial and farm produce shipping center. Here is the home of a large canned and frozen foods industry whose products are distributed throughout the east. Originally a crossroads settlement appropriately called Forktown, it had renewed vitality when the railroad came through in 1867. Six years later the postmaster recommended the name be officially changed after a poll of the inhabitants demonstrated the name Fruitland was preferred to Phoenix.

WICOMICO COUNTY AND SALISBURY TODAY

Today Wicomico is the most populous of Maryland's Eastern Shore counties and continues to grow at a relatively rapid pace. At the end of 1949 it is estimated to have increased to 36,500.

Likewise Salisbury has become the Shore's largest city and to a large extent the economic nerve center of the area.

At the turn of the twentieth century Salisbury's population was 4,277, by 1940 it had reached 13,313, and today the estimated population is 17,400 in the city proper, with perhaps 2,000 more residing in the immediate suburban sections. Slightly more than 200 of these are foreign born.

Its industries are very diversified, with no single plant or single industry dominating the economic or labor fields. Its shirt manufacturing plants account for an annual payroll of more than two million dollars; metal and wood-working plants each have a payroll of half that amount, canneries account for another large payroll as do its retail, wholesale, utilities and businesses allied with agriculture.



Benjamin's, Salisbury

Salisbury's strategic situation, approximately mid-way between the northern and southern extremities of the Delaware-Maryland-Virginia peninsula and at the juncture of trans-peninsular transportation routes, accounts for its substantial growth.

Modern, well-stocked stores attract shoppers within a wide radius, to the extent that *per capita* retail sales ranks Salisbury among the nation's foremost cities.

Here are located home or regional headquarters of extensive bus operations, motor truck transportation, electric light and power, manufactured fuel gas, wholesale businesses, and re-

gional branch offices for a large number of diversified interests.

The city is served by regularly scheduled air line, railroads, inter-city bus system, motor truck lines, daily scheduled freight boat service to Baltimore, and its own intra-city bus service.

In the first three years following the close of World War II more than one thousand new homes and several apartment houses have been erected.

Its handsome churches are the pride of the citizenry, representing Methodist, Baptist, Episcopal, Catholic, Presbyterian, Lutheran, and Pilgrim Holiness denominations. Other religious faiths also have active organizations.

Here is located the Maryland State Teachers College for the Eastern Shore. The county's public school system is completing a program of centralization offering modern buildings and advanced educational training practices to urban and rural pupils alike.

Salisbury's high school and seven elementary schools represent an investment of several million dollars. Three of the latter are postwar buildings. A new parochial school will be ready for occupancy during 1950.

The city is rapidly attaining a position as health center of the peninsula. A half-million dollar addition has been authorized for the 205-bed Peninsula General Hospital. A new \$2,000,000 chronic disease hospital with 300 beds is to be opened in 1950 by the State of Maryland. Eastern Shore State Tuberculosis

Sanitarium and a public health center for medical clinics further add to the city's stature in the field of medicines and health protection.

As a World War II memorial, Wicomico County has established and maintains through the year, recreational facilities and activities in nearly every town, with trained instructors for various sports. In addition, Salisbury has an eighty-acre park with recreational facilities within a five minutes' walk from the city's center, and two golf courses.

During the ten years ending with 1949, annual business transactions in Salisbury, as reflected by its bank clearances, has jumped from \$70,042,000 in 1940 to \$271,100,000 in 1949. Postal receipts more than doubled in the same decade, attaining \$278,273 in 1949.

A further conception of Salisbury's progress is seen in building operations for 1946-1949 which amounted to \$7,933,000, to which may be added another \$1,000,000 immediately adjacent to the corporate limits.

Salisbury has two newspapers: The *Salisbury Times* published every evening except Sunday, and The *Salisbury Advertiser*, a weekly paper issued every Thursday.

Radio Station WBOC, operating with 1,000 watts unlimited time, was established in 1940 and WBOC-FM, 12,000 watts, in 1948.

Salisbury airport, constructed during the war and now owned and operated jointly by Salisbury and Wicomico County governments, cost more than \$2,000,000. It occupies a 697 acre site and contains three concrete paved runways 5,000 feet by 150 feet each, with connecting concrete taxiways and loading apron. There is also a privately owned airport.

The John B. Parsons Home For Aged Women, with 68 private rooms, was erected with funds provided by a native countian, whose name it bears. Wicomico Children's home, providing a foster home for 24 children, is publicly owned and maintained from Community Chest funds. Housed in its own attractive building, the Wicomico Free Library contains more than 19,000 volumes.

Agriculture, and its allied broiler raising and processing industry, is the source of considerable income in county and city. The broiler chick industry, started on a small commercial scale in 1923, produces an annual income of more than \$100,000,000 on the Delmarva Peninsula and exceeds total annual income from all other farming operations.

Wicomico County's climate, soil and proximity to large eastern consuming markets are conducive to successful truck farming. Small fruits and vegetables are sold by farmers at local auction blocks for cash and shipped to eastern cities overnight.

Frequently, within a single season, a farm produces strawberries, cucumbers, cantaloupes, snap beans, lima beans, asparagus, sweet potatoes, white potatoes, tomatoes, watermelons and soybeans, all for commercial purposes. In smaller quantities the same farm will produce turnips, peppers, peas, greens and a variety of garden vegetables.

POINTS OF INTEREST

In Wicomico County west of Salisbury are a number of interesting structures that have survived from Colonial days. The eastern half of the county, having been settled much later, is entirely devoid of such landmarks.

Paul Jones House, on Wicomico Creek near the small village of Allen, was erected in 1733. Its gambrel roof, dormer windows, interior paneling and carved woodwork provide true examples of work by Colonial Maryland architects and artisans. In this neighborhood settled James Jones, native of Monmouthshire, Wales, who patented the land as "Jones' Hole." He first settled in Northampton County, Virginia, where he was taken into sheriff's custody for "moveing in ye court in an irreverent manner with his hatt on his head" and refusing to pay church levies, being a Quaker. A year after arrival here he was appointed a commissioner and justice of the newly formed Somerset County. Here, too, he entertained George Fox, at a "large and glorious" gathering when the eminent Quaker leader journeyed through in 1672.

Chase House, on Wicomico River, seven miles from Salisbury, was the residence of Reverend Thomas Chase in 1741 when his son, Samuel, who was to be one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence and a Supreme Court Justice, was born. The elder Chase was rector of ancient Green Hill (Episcopal) Church. Erected in the early 1700s, the elongated clapboard structure with dormers, contains some original paneling and woodwork but has long been neglected. Samuel Chase, the signer, was not actually born here, for the rector's wife was visiting her parents farther down the river when Samuel was born.

Pemberton Hall, on Wicomico River, four miles from Salisbury, is the best-known of this county's Colonial homes. An eight-room brick structure with gambrel roof and dormer windows, it was built by Colonel Isaac Handy, planter and merchant, in 1741. Now showing signs of disrepair, it stands on the 1000-acre "Pemberton" patent, which adjoined "Pemberton's Good Will," a portion of which was taken for the "erection" of Salisbury in 1732.

New Nithsdale, a mile farther southward on Wicomico River, is a storey-and-half residence with dormers built by Captain Levin Gale, a seafarer, in 1730. Its walls contain a lacework of glazed brick, offering an entrancing picture when viewed from the river by moonlight.

Five miles from Salisbury, primitive *Upper Ferry* still hauls vehicular traffic across Wicomico River, just as it has for more than two and a half centuries. The ferry is mentioned in Colonial records as early as 1692—a flat-bottom raft pulled across the river by a ferryman sliding a lever along a steel cable fastened on each shore. It was at the north landing of the ferry that Francis Makemie directed the founding of one of the first six Presbyterian churches in America, prior to 1706 on a tract called "What You Please." In the nearby ancient graveyard was buried Brigadier General Alexander Roxburgh, an officer with Maryland troops on Long Island, at White Plains, Princetown, Germantown and Yorktown in the Revolutionary War.

A mile farther down the river is *Green Hill Church*, whose exterior and interior have undergone no changes since the edifice was erected in 1733—as shown in header brick in a gable end. This was the mother church of Stepney Parish. The plain, barn-like structure is of large mold English brick. The brick floor, high-back box pews, canopied pulpit and clerk's desk midway a side wall, the holy table and communion rail in the front end, all remain intact. A massive silver service, presented by the rector Alexander Adams in 1752, is still used at special services. In the churchyard are graves of many colonial settlers.

The church is the only building standing today in the once progressive "Greene Hill Towne and Pourt," erected by the Maryland Provincial Assembly

in 1707. The town once contained a number of residences, a store, warehouse and market place and for many years it and Oxford (Talbot County) were the only ports of entry designated by the Assembly for the Eastern Shore.

Long Hill, near Wetipquin village, is probably the oldest structure in Wicomico County. It is believed to have been built in 1692 by Captain Alexander



(Photos by Perry-Pix, Salisbury)

Mutual Radio Station WBOC, Salisbury, Covering Eastern Shore

Stewart. A storey-and-half clapboard structure with brick gable ends and cellar, its wooden pegs still hold the timbers firmly in place. The old L & H hinges, paneled walls, doors and old wide fireplaces are in excellent condition.

MacIntyre's Chance, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from White Haven, offers another interesting example of early architecture. It was constructed in 1785 of clapboard, except one gable end for which the bricks were made on the farm. A colonnade connects the main storey-and-half section with the kitchen. The hall paneling has never been painted and much of the hardware, the corner fireplaces, cupboards with "butterfly" shelving, the hand-made wooden pegs, nails and some of the roof shingles are intact.

The oldest building in Salisbury is *Poplar Hill Mansion*, erected by Major Levin Handy who came here from Rhode Island in 1795. No expense was spared in materials or construction and the woodwork in its large spacious rooms, halls and stairway have been considered excellent examples of early American architecture. It has recently been completely restored.

At the juncture of Tony Tank Creek and Wicomico River, near Salisbury, is *Cherry Hill*, for two centuries the home of the Somers and Gunby families. In rebuilding the 1760 structure, the original interior was preserved with its broad fireplaces, curved staircase, scrollwork and heart pine flooring. One of its early owners was Captain Samuel Somers who carried on extensive trade with the West Indies.

Advisory Board for the History

J. D. BLACKWELL, PH.D.
CLIFFORD BYRD
MAX CHAMBERS
EDWARD J. CLARKE, LITT.D.
JACK F. A. CULVER, JR.
G. HARRY DAVIDSON
JUDGE JOHN DICKINSON
JUDGE ROBERT F. DUER
CHARLES T. FISHER, M.D.
JAMES W. FOSTER
GEORGE T. HARRISON
MRS. R. G. HENRY
ARTHUR A. HOUGHTON
DR. WILLIAM R. HOWELL
JAMES W. HUGHES, ESQ.
MATILDA B. KEATING
E. PAUL KNOTTS, M.D.
G. ARTHUR MCDANIEL

GILBERT W. MEAD, PH.D.*
DUNCAN NOBLE
STEWART K. POWELL, ESQ.
GEORGE L. RADCLIFFE
JOHN W. ROBERTSON, M.D.
R. HARLÁN ROBERTSON
MRS. ETHYL HOWARD ROWE
ELMER F. RUARK
DR. J. PAUL SLAYBAUGH
FRANCES L. TAYLOR
FRANCIS DUPONT THOMSON
SOPHIE KERR UNDERWOOD
FRED G. USILTON*
P. WATSON WEBB
MRS. NELL C. WESTCOTT
S. KING WHITE
BURTON M. WILKINSON
GENERAL AMOS W. W. WOODCOCK

*Deceased during publication.

Index

Index

- Ababco, 54, 55
 Ababco's Town, King Ababco's Town, 54
 "Abbey, The," Pearce or Ringgold House, 335, 784
 Abbott, Samuel, Capt., 954
 Abington Parish, Gloucester, 125
 Academies, list, 706
 Academy, Locustville, 577
 Academy Fund, 712
 Acadians, 380-383, 806, 946, 1015, 1037, 1077
 Accohannock, 41, 44, 45
 — River, 44
 Accomac and Accohannock Indians, 42-45, 46
 Accomac(k), 12, 41-46, 50, 172
 — Committee, 152, 153, 156
 — County, 5, 21, 26, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 37, 73, 74, 75, 76, 78, 81, 82, 83, 90, 96, 98, 100, 101, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 111, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 122, 125, 127, 129, 130, 131, 132, 134, 150, 152, 153, 154, 155, 157, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 166, 167, 170, 172, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 180, 615
 — Court, 135, 161
 — Court House, 132
 — High School, 578
 — Parish, 115, 119, 120, 123
 — Peninsula, 12, 14
 — Plantation, 74, 80, 104
Accomack News, 598
 Accomack and Northampton counties, 29, 37, 43, 44, 609
 Accomack and Northampton Air Line Railroad Company, 589
 Accomack-Northampton Electric Co-operative, 600
 Accomack and Northampton Telephone Company, 597
 Accounts, Lands and Revenues, Supervisor of, 326
 Accounts of Travellers, 485-491
 "Ace of Clubs Church," St. George's, 573, 785
 Act of Attainder of Claiborne, 209
 — to cede Congress ten square miles for seat of government, 440
 — to cede territory to Delaware, 1893, 238
 — completing establishment of Church of England, 1702, 268
 — concerning religion, 1649, 220, 224, 227
 — dividing Maryland into six Congressional Districts, 1788, 437
 — to open Courts of Justice, 1777, 457
 — to restrain attorneys, 1725, 267
 — of Toleration, 224, 225
 Acts regulating clergymen's salaries, 1747 and 1763, 269
 Adams, Alexander, 1145
 — C. W., Capt., 971
 — Duke, Capt., 837
 — James Truslow, 6
 — John Quincy, 960
 Addison, Nathan, 176
 Addison Homestead, Northampton County, 780
 Adeler, Max (Charles Heber Clark), 793
 Advisory Board, History, 1147
 Agricultural Society of Maryland, 493, 494
 Agriculture, 178, 502-504, 578-582, 859-865
 — Board of, 494
 — and Industry, Ante-Bellum, 485-510
 — Tables, 503-504
 Aikman, William, 350
 Air Service, 594
 — Transportation, 885, 886
 Airliners, 885
 Alexander, Robert, 414, 415, 1041
 Algonkian Indians, 4, 39, 41, 44, 53, 54, 61, 63
 All Hallows Church, Episcopal, Snow Hill, 604, 784, 1083
 — Parish, Anne Arundel County, 356
 — Parish, Snow Hill, 693
 All Saints Parish, Frederick, 347
 Allan, Ethan, Rev., 1054
 Allen, Ben, 1003, 1137
 — Bennett, Rev., 326
 — Hervey, 788
 — Thomas, 209
 "Almodington," Somerset County, 781, 782 (Illus.)
 Altham, John, 684
 Alumni Association, State Teachers College, 767, 768
 Alumni Debt Fund, 735
 Ambler, Prof., Charles H., 563
American Farmer, 492
 American Library Association, 823, 831
 Ames, Rev., B. T., 611
 — Elijah, 574
 — Leonard H., 574
 — Dr. Susie M., vi, 73, 149
 — Mrs. Virginia, 574
An Old Maryland Home, Frederic Emory, 527-528
 "Anchorage, The," Talbot County, 783
 Anderson, Archibald, 954
 — Sherwood, 800
 — Will, 461
 Andrew, James O., Bishop, 567

- Andrew's case, 568
 Andrews, William, 80
 Anglican Church, disestablishment of, 170-176
 Annapolis, 332, 334, 337, 340, 359, 375, 378, 380, 382, 424, 458, 479
 Annapolis Canal Company, 473
 Annapolis Convention of 1774, 390
 — Resolves, 390
 Annapolitan Library, 353
 Annemessex, 121, 406
 — Indians, 47
 — River, 47, 991, 1000
 Annoughtoughk, 52
 Annulment of Charter, 236
 Anthony, Elmer, Mrs., 828
Anthony Adverse, 788
 Anti-aristocratic sentiment, 431
 — Catholic element, 253
 — Federalist party, 434
 — Negro movements, 518
 "Antillon" (Daniel Dulany), 390
 Appoquinimunk Creek, 245
 Apprentice's library (1822), 821
 "Arcadia," 449
 Arcadia Neck, 102
 Archaeological Society of Delaware, 39, 64
 Archaeology and Ethnology, 64, 65
 Archer, John, 455
 Archer-Burton, Mrs. E., 812
 Architecture, 777-786
 — Medieval, 777, 785
 — Transitional, 780
 — Georgian, 781
 Argall, (Sir) Samuel, 14, 74
 Arlington, 84
 Arms collected and stored, 542
 Armstrong, Francis, 1014
 Arnold's invasion, 156
 Articles of Agreement, 1657, 227
 — of Confederation, 1776, 429
 — of Peace, 43
 — for a school, 1786, 176
 Asbury, Rev. Francis, Methodist Episcopal Bishop, 174, 175, 176, 689, 802, 804, 1020
 Ascom Island, 406
 Ashley, John, 336
 Askiminokonson, 47
 Asquash, William, 52
 Assateague, 44, 46, 59, 82, 98
 — Indians, 47, 48, 51, 60, 63, 75
 — Inlet, 74, 128
 — Island, 33
 Assembly of God, 574
 "Associated Loyalists of America," 415
 "Association, The," 391
 "Association in Arms for Defense of Protestant Religion, An," 254
 Association of Freemen of Maryland, 392
 Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, 617
 Assawaman (Assawoman), 32, 48, 120
 Assawaman Church, 123
 Athey, Edward L., 738
 Atkinson, Isaac, 419
 Atkinson's Election District, 27
 Atlantic Female College, 576-577
Atlas of American History, The, 6
 Austin, William F., 831
 Authors, 623-625
 "Avondale," Residence of John W. Noble, 370 (Illus.)
 Ayres, James K., 574
 Babcock, William Henry, 789, 795, 1054
 Back Creek, Elk River, 60
 Bacon, Anthony, 296, 457
 — Thomas (Rev.), 345-347, 355, 360, 380, 457, 691
 Bacon's Assembly, 85
 — Laws, 345, 355
 Bagley, Dr. William C., 764
 Bagwell, Henry, 74, 108
 Bailey, George K., 826
 — Mrs. Harold, 826
 Baker, Elijah, Rev., 172, 174, 573
 — Frank, 845
 — Mrs. Harry, 828
 — Thomas, 1058
 Ball, Ambrose M., 787
 — Donald L., 787
 Baltimore, 1, 17, 21, 30, 295, 333, 380, 386, 416, 441, 456, 464, 469, 470, 539, 543, 746
Baltimore American, 544, 547, 610
Baltimore American and Daily Advertiser, 465-465
 Baltimore, Barons of, and Lords Proprietary of Maryland, 189
 Baltimore, Chesapeake and Atlantic Railway, 586, 587, 883, 1130
 Baltimore, Crisfield & Onancock Line, 587
 — Steamer "Eastern Shore," 587 (Illus.)
 Baltimore and Eastern Railroad, 884
 Baltimore and Eastern Shore Railroad, 1130
Baltimore Exchange, The, 541
 Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, 23, 464, 472
 Baltimore subscription library (1795), 821
Baltimore Sun, 481-482, 773
 Baltimore, Lord, versus William Penn, 233-238
 Baltimore and West Point Line, 584
 Baltimore Yacht Club, 852
 Baltimore's, Lord, Patents to Herrman, 243
 Bancroft, Frederic, 529-533
 Bank of Maryland, 451
 Banks, Nathaniel, Maj. Gen., 543
 Banks, Eastern Shore, 617, 1067
 Banning, Henry, Capt., 954, 955
 — James, Col., 954
 — Jeremiah, Maj. (Col.), 295, 437, 524, 525, 955
 Baptist dissenters, 120
 Baptist Temple, Crisfield, 690 (Illus.)
 Baptists, 114, 170, 172, 174, 416, 566, 567, 572-573, 970, 982, 1020, 1070, 1115, 1129, 1143
 Barber, Mrs. Carolyn M., 827
 Barker, Charles A., 392
 Barker's Landing, 457
 Barnes, Abraham, Maj., 374
 — E. W., 599
 — Thomas, Capt., 406
 Barr, Martin W., 795
 — Stringfellow, Dr., 831
 Barren Creek, 51
 Barrett's Chapel, 689

- Barrie, George, Jr., 807
 — Robert, 807
 Barroll, William, Rev., 363
 Barron, Commodore, 162, 163
 Barry, John, 919
 Barton, Joseph H., 418
 — Mrs. Marvin, 828
 Barwick, Thomas, Capt., 104
 Bast, Homer, 421, 943
 Bates, Mrs. Fred W., 831
 Battle of the Barges, 164
 Battle of Moorefield (Caulk's Field), 449
 Battle Point Hotel, 621
 Battle of Rumley's Gut, 602
 Battle of Severn, 227
 Baxter, Joseph, 1042
 Bayard family, 689
 Bayly, Mrs. A. Shepherd, 1021
 — Edgar, 1028
 — Josiah, 1021, 1028
 — Thomas, Col., 563, 565, 602
 Bayly, Thomas H., Memorial Building, 577
 Bayly-Tiffany Scholarship Fund, 577
 Bay-Side (Claiborne), 379
 Bay Side Church (St. Michaels), Talbot County, 363
 Bay Side Road, 32
 Bayside, 947, 954, 982
 — Church, 947, 982
 Beacon Hill, 1036
 Beck, Barbara, 825
 — St. John, 446, 447
 Beckler, Edward, 208
 Bell, Doris T., 740
 — William Clark, 340
 Bell Neck, 30
 Bell Telephone System, 597
 Bellah, James Warner, 799
 Bellair (Fairlee), 444
 Belle Haven, 178
 Benedictine Sisters, 1116
 Benjamin's, Salisbury, 1143 (Illus.)
 Bennett, Edgar T., 851
 — Henry R., 615
 — Mrs. Lucy M., 765
 — O. Everett, 764
 — Richard, Gov., 212, 328
 Benoni's Point, 955
 Benson, James, Capt., 954
 Berkeley, Robert, 77
 — Sir William, Gov., 45, 46, 75, 109, 116, 117, 180, 211, 232
 Berlin, 27, 29, 47, 1089-1092
 — Church, 1091
 Betchel, George K., 711
 Bethards, James D., 29
 Bethesda, 689
 Betterton, 24, 936
 Betts, Walter, 845, 848
 Bevan, Roland, 1132
 Beverley-Giddings, A. R., 792, 815
 "Beverly," Worcester County, 783
 Beyer, Nancy, 762
 Bibliography and Notes (See closing pages of chapters)
 Bibliothecae Provinciales or Annapolitan Library, 353
 Bi-Centennial Celebration, Salisbury, 764
 Big Elk Creek, 23
 Bill for confiscation, 416
 — for religious freedom, 172
 Bingham, Anne (Willing), 364
 — Mrs. William, 364
 Bird, Benjamin Oliver, 751, 752
 — Portia (Mrs. B. O.), 752
 Bird, B. O., Lodge No. 42, Knights of Pythias, Princess Anne, 752
 Bird Lyceum, 752
 Birdsnest, 34
 Birkhead, Christopher, Col., 954, 955
 Birney, William, Col., 551
 Birth rate (Table), 665
 Bischoff, Hermann, Rev., 693
 Bishop, Smith, 1081
 — Tom, 55
 Bishop, Worcester County, 27
 Bishop of London, 821
 Bishopville, 1090
 Bivalve, 1141
 Blackwell, J. D., Ph.D., 1147
 Black Code, 552
 Black, Margaret, 762, 763
 — William (Rev.), 120, 123
 Black Session, 431
 Blackiston's (Isle of St. Clements), 631
 Blackwell, Jefferson D., Dr., 763, 765, 768, 769
 Bladen soils, 36
 Bladensburg, 444
 Blake, Mrs. Sarah, 729
 Blakiston, Nathaniel, Gov., 258, 259, 261, 321
 — Nehemiah, 254, 256
 Blakistone, William J., 472
 Blanchard, Amy E., 794
 Blockade runners, 604
 Bloody Point, 683
 Blow (Blower or Blore), John, 79
 Bloxom, 33, 34
 Blue Ball Tavern, Cecil County, 412 (Illus.)
 Board of County Canvassers, 654
 — of Education (County), 645
 — of Revenue, 326
 — of Supervisors of Elections, 651, 652, 653, 654
 — of Trade, 319, 320, 321
 — of Visitors and Governors, Washington College, 735
 Boating Parties and Picnics, 854
 Boggs Chapel (Andrew Chapel), 568, 569
 Bohemia Manor, 241, 406, 441, 689, 691, 802
 — Lord of, 241-246
 — River, 60, 241, 245
 "Bolingly," Queen Anne's County, 781
 Bolton, Francis (Rev.), 74, 117
Bon Homme Richard, 919
 Bond, Judge Hugh Lennox, 551
 Book of Common Prayer, 688
 Bookmobiles, 824, 825, 830, 831, 832
 Booksellers, Libraries and Reading Habits, 349-360
 Booth, William, 336
 Bordley, James, Jr., 829
 — John Beale, 358, 902, 963, 1058, 1059
 — Matthew, 493
 — R. G., 1067
 — Stephen (Rev.), 355, 389

- Thomas, 267
- William, Dr., 335
- Borum, John T., 598
- Julius, 598
- Thelma Bradley, 598
- Boston, Henry, 121
- Bouchell family, 689
- Boundary Survey, Mason and Dixon, 237
- Bowdoin, James, 95
- John, 92, 95, 104, 150 168, 177
- Peter, 165
- Preeson, 125
- Bowdoin's Ferry, 177
- Bowen, Littleton Purnell, Rev. Dr., 803, 804, 812
- Bowie, John, Rev., 417-418, 521-524
- Bowman, Edmund, 78
- "Bowman's Folly," Accomack County, 783
- Bownas, Samuel, 122, 248
- Boycott, 387
- Boycott Association, 150
- Bozeman, William, 1001
- Bozman, John Leeds, 525
- Bracco, John, 522
- Bradford, Augustus W., 542, 546, 548, 551
- Nathaniel, 81, 90, 97, 102, 127, 130
- William, 130
- Bradford-Schenck conflict, 548
- Bradford(s) Neck, 30, 175
- Bradley, Amanda T., Dean, 740
- Sidney B., Rev., 804
- Bradnox, Thomas, Capt., 922, 929
- Bray, Clem, 979
- Thomas, Rev., 351, 352, 353, 355, 821
- Brent, Capt., 211
- Frank P. (Prof.), 576, 599
- Giles, 1053
- Margaret, 923, 1053
- Brethren, 694, 982
- Brereton (Brewington), William, 1132
- Brewington, M. V., 837
- Brick Meeting House, near Calvert, Cecil County, 444 (Illus.)
- Briddell, Charles D., 690
- Briddell, Inc., Chas. D., Factory at Crisfield, 997 (Illus.)
- Bridges, 304-305, 998, 1078, 1101, 1107, 1108, 1109, 1112
- Bridgetown, 1101, 1108
- Bridgeville, 966
- Bright, Capt., 163
- British naval activity on the Chesapeake, 167
- "Broad Arrow, Ye," 232
- Broad Creek, 51, 957
- Bronte, Charlotte, 795
- Brown, Edwin, Jr., 829
- Mrs. Edwin, Jr., 828, 829
- George William, Maj., 518
- Hiram S., Col., 735, 739
- John, 514, 1059
- Morgan, 447
- Peregrine, Capt., 379
- Mrs. Zenith (see Ford, Leslie), 800-801
- Browne, Emma Alica, 811
- Peter F., Dr., 607
- T. H. Bayly, 565
- William, 201
- Brueil, Mrs. Francis V., 1026
- Bruff, Charles Oliver, 418
- Joseph, Capt., 954
- William, 395, 459, 1060
- Bryan, Arthur, 522
- Buchanan, James, 961
- "Buckingham," 47
- Buckler, John, Capt., 340
- Bucks Company, 399
- Buckwheat, 489
- Bull, John T., 598
- Robert, 594
- Bullitt, T. J., 958
- Bullock's Channel, 11
- Bunting, George A., Dr., 736
- Samuel, 155
- Bunting, George Avery, Library, Washington College, vi, 737 (Illus.), 788, 828
- Burchenal, Thomas, 471-472
- Burchinal, Mary C., Dr., 738
- Bureau of Bacteriology, 772
- Chemistry, 772
- Child Hygiene, 772
- Communicable Diseases, 772
- Food and Drugs, 773
- Medical Services, 773
- Sanitary Engineering, 772
- Vital Statistics, 772
- Burgesses, House of, 77, 115, 119, 137, 149-50
- Burkhardt, William E., 1033
- Zolpha, 1033
- Burton, John, 150
- William, 1078
- Burton's Church, 176
- Burwell's Ferry, 165
- Bus Service and Trucking, 593-594, 882
- Busteed, Charles, 829
- William W., 1067
- Butler, B(enjamin) F., Gen., 543, 570, 608, 609, 612
- John, 207, 208, 209, 210
- Butter, 488
- Byrd, Clifford, 1147
- John O., 1084
- William, 79, 133, 358
- Byrn, William Wilson, 905
- Byron, Gilbert, 813, 815
- Cabot, John, 4, 5
- Cadawallader, George, Gen., 543
- Cadwalader, John, Gen., 902, 920
- Cahoon, Charles J., Dr., 829
- Martha J., 829
- Caile, John, 1028
- Cain, James M., 788
- James W., Dr., 734
- Calder, Alexander, 338
- James, 360
- Callister, Henry, 17, 287, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 305, 306, 307, 308, 345-49, 350, 351, 357, 358, 360, 372, 373, 380, 382, 387
- Callister letters 271, 272
- Calvert (Lords Baltimore), Benedict Leonard, 236, 251, 257, 269, 270
- Cecil (Caecilius, Cecilius), 219, 220, 222, 229, 242, 322, 324, 326, 346, 683, 685
- Charles (Gov.), 211, 212, 219, 232,

- 236, 237, 246, 257, 265, 266, 269, 1013
 — Francis, 324
 — George, 204, 221, 222, 683, 925
 — Leonard (Gov.), 49, 50, 204, 207, 208, 223, 511, 684
 — Philip (Gov.), 76, 228, 232, 243, 1000
 Calvert formation, 24, 25, 29
 — Scarborough Line, 232
 — representatives, 316
 Cambridge, 22, 56, 519, 542, 660, 664, 689, 773, 964, 1015, 1016, 1023, 1028
 — African Colonization Society, 518
 — Blues, The, 399
 — *Chronicle*, 529
 — Convention, 519
 — Female Seminary, 1028
 — Library, Negro branch, 822
 — Maryland Hospital, Inc., 774
 — Woman's Club, 1028
 — Yacht Club, 1028
 Cambridge (ship), 966
 Campaign Funds, 654
 Campbell, Daniel, 360
 Campus Elementary School, 768
 Canneries, 581
 Canning, 581
 Cannon, Alonza, 1021
 — Patty, 791, 792, 807, 1021, 1022, 1104
 Canoe Builders, 837, 841, 842-43
 — Centers and Methods, 838-41
 — Types and Evolution, 837-43
 Canterbury Town, 937
 Cape Charles, 7, 12, 29, 30, 42, 73, 104, 169, 194, 583
 Cape Charles Railroad Company, 592
 Cape Hatteras, 7
 Cape Henlopen, 236
 Cape Henry, 7, 11
 Capell, Nathaniel, 124
 Carew, Bamfylde-Moore, 274
 Carmichael, Richard B(ennett), 474, 542, 546, 554, 902, 1059, 1064
 — William, 902, 1059, 1064
 Carnan, John, 307
 Carnegie Library Fund, 824
 Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, 830
 Carney, Mabel, 764
 Caroline County, 21, 25, 632, 824-25, 859, 911, 977, 1022, 1053, 1095-1121
 — Board of Education, 808
 — Churches, 1101, 1102, 1103, 1108, 1109, 1111, 1113, 1114
 — Historic Homes, 1120, 1121
 — Towns, 1099, 1101, 1103, 1107, 1108, 1109, 1112, 1113, 1116, 1117, 1119, 1120
 Caroline (ship), 1068
 Carr, James E., Jr., 449
 Carroll, Anna Ella, 793, 1009, 1018, 1023
 — Charles, 317, 318, 319, 358, 386, 390, 392, 393, 394, 424, 429, 432, 433, 434, 687
 — Daniel, 433, 687
 — Eleanor Ellicott, 801
 — John, Rev., 687, 692
 — Thomas King, Dr., 1018
 — Thomas King, Gov., 553, 905, 1008, 1018, 1023
 Carroll County, 1
 Carter, Edward, Col., 927
 — Peter J., 564
 Caruthers, Thomas J., Dr., 762, 763, 768
 Carvel House, Kent Island, 1061
 Case, William, 441, 442
 Cass, Louis, 563
 Cassatt, Alexander J., 590
 Castle Hall, Caroline County, 1121
 Cathell, Levi, 474, 475
 Cather, Willa, 797, 815
 Catholics, Roman, 199, 202, 211, 219, 223, 256, 265
 Cattle, 281, 581
 Caulk's Field, Kent County, 450-51, 671, 786, 919, 921
 Caution Money, 322
 Cecil County, 14, 20, 21, 23, 99, 244, 245, 272, 382, 383, 632, 783, 825, 826, 859, 909, 938, 1033-1052
 — Churches, 1043, 1045, 1046, 1050
 — Libraries, 825-826
 — School Visitors, 724
 — Schools, 1046, 1047
 — Towns and Villages, 1035, 1036, 1037, 1039, 1040, 1042, 1043, 1044, 1040, 1047, 1048, 1049
 Cecil Whig, The, Elkton, 518
 Cecilton, 834, 1049, 1050
 — Church, 1050
 — Community Library, Inc., 825, 826
 Cedar Island, 583
 Cedarhurst, Caroline County, 1121
 Centenary Biblical Institute, 745, 746, 747, 748, 750, 751, 752, 754
 — Visiting Committee, 747
 Centreville, 441, 829, 1057, 1063, 1064, 1067
 — Academy, 706
 — Church, 1064
 — Public Library, Inc., 822, 828-29
 — Rotary Club, 828
 — Schools, 1069
 Centreville Advocate, The, 541
 Centreville State Rights, The, 546
 Certification of teachers, State, 716
 "Cessford," Eastville, Northampton County, 131 (Illus.)
 Chaille, Peter, 1081
 Chaires, Mrs. Grace Strickland, 763
 Chalmers', James, *Maryland Loyalists*, 415
 Chamberlain, Samuel, and Co., 950
 Chamberlaine, James, 954
 — James Lloyd, Gen., 401
 — Samuel, 489
 Chambers, Benjamin, Gen., 446, 447
 — Benjamin B., 554
 — Ezekiel F(orman), 519, 542, 553, 728, 731, 732, 902, 921
 — Max, 1147
 Champion, 966
 "Chanceford" or "Ingleside," Snow Hill, 784
 Chancellor Point, 25, 54
 Chandler, John H., 584
 — O. Sheldon, 851
 Chapels of Ease, 693
 Chaplin, Mrs. William C., 831
 Chapman, Thomas, 492
 Charitable Society of Easton, 959
 Charity Working School, 346, 948

- Charles I, 925
 Charles, Jacob, 472
 Charles City, 97
 Charles County, 26, 229
 Charlestown, Cecil County, 378, 407, 1037, 1049, 1050
 Charlton, Stephen, 117, 566
 Chase, Samuel, 387, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 429, 432, 433, 434, 437, 441, 512, 902, 1004, 1145
 — Thomas, Rev., 393, 1145
 Chase House, 1145
 Cheapside, 32
 Cheezum, William W., 1067
 Cheriton (Cherrystone), Northampton County, 94, 113, 158, 168
 Cherry Hill, 1147
 Cherrystone (Cheriton) Creek, 44, 157, 164, 177
 Chesapeake, origin of name, 1, 2
Chesapeake (ship), 884, 967, 1044
 Chesapeake Bay, 5, 20, 442, 855, 1013
 — Bridge, 481, 877-79
 — Bugeyes, 843
 — Fishing Fair Association, 981
 — Yacht Club, 841, 981
 Chesapeake City, 23, 1049, 1050
 Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, 18, 791, 1044, 1049
 Chesapeake House, 620
 Chesapeake Indians, 4
 Chesapeake Islands Electric Co-operative, 600
 Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, 464, 473
 Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, 597
 Chesapeake River, 932
 Chesconessex Creek, 132
 Chesconnessecks, 44
 Cheseldyno, Kenelm, 253
 Chester, 1054
Chester (vessel), 1060
 Chester Mills, 702
 Chester Parish Church, 726
 Chester River, 2, 14, 23, 24, 57, 59, 60, 279, 300, 331, 406, 407, 917, 924, 926, 927, 930, 936, 938
 Chestertown, 331, 378, 406, 408, 424, 444, 456, 458, 688, 724, 917, 920, 930-32, 933, 935-36, 938
 — as a Port, 331-343
 — Public Library, 822, 827
 Chicacoan Creek, 51, 59
 Chicacoan Town, 52
 Chicacene (Chicacoan), 51
 Chicone Creek, 51
 Chiconessex, 43
 Chickahominy River, 12
 Chicken Hatchery, 865 (Illus.)
 Childs, 1048
 Chincoteague, 44, 82, 168, 174
 — Bay, 5, 20, 74
 — Island, 33, 97, 98, 615
 Chincoteague Ice Manufacturing Co., 599
Chincoteague Islander, 599
 Chincoteague Light Co., 599
 Chincoteague Toll Road and Bridge Co., 595
 Chisquack, 201
 Choptank, 347
 Choptank or Delaware Indian Path, 60
 Choptank Indians, 54-56
 Choptank River, 17, 25, 26, 54, 55, 56, 59, 60, 76, 121, 279, 333, 456, 457, 944, 951, 954, 959, 1014, 1017, 1021, 1029, 1034, 1095, 1096, 1113, 1121
 Choptank Steamboat Company, The, 967
 Chowan River, 168
 Christian education, 346
 Christian Sanctified Holiness, 574
 Christian Science Society, 574
 Christian Scientists, 694, 982
 Christison, Wenlocke, 778
 Christmas Candle-lighting, 764
 "Christmas Conference," 691
 Church Creek, 1017, 1029
 Church of England, Protestant Episcopal, 114-123, 566, 573, 574, 683, 918, 933, 934, 946, 947, 1128
 Church, first in Maryland, 684
 Church of God, 574, 694
 Church Hill, Caroline County, 1057, 1065, 1067, 1101
 — Church, 1065, 1070
 Church life, 803
 Churches, seventeenth century, 779
 Churchill, Winston, 790
 Churn Creek, 934
 Cibot, Adrien, 441
 Cinquack, 231
 Citizens National Bank, Pocomoke City, (Illus.), 622
 Civil War, 211, 539-557
 Claggett, Thomas John, Rev., 688
 Claiborne, William (Capt.), 54, 59, 74, 93, 95, 97, 98, 104, 107, 198-200, 204, 212-13, 236, 683, 777, 917, 924-927, 1053
 Claiborne Controversy, 198-200
 Claiborne, Talbot County, 234, 966
 Claiborne's Patent, 208
 — Petition, 210-213
 Clapham, John, 334
 Clark, Adelaide, vi
 — Adelaide Snowden Hodges, vi
 — Charles B., vi, 670, 723
 — Charles B., Jr., vi
 — Edward T., vi
 — Mrs. Edward T., vi
 — Louis T., vi
 — Mrs. Louis T., vi
 — P. R., 585
 — Raymond B., 821, 822
 — Raymond B., Jr., 821, 1053
 — Sara Seth, 821, 822
 — William Bell, 804, 817
 Clarke, Edward J., Litt.D., 739, 1092, 1147
 — William D., 1091
 Class Distinctions, 931
 "Clay's Neck," 778
 Clemens, Samuel, 815
 Clergy, 268-269
 Clerk of the Circuit Court, office, 639
 Cleveland Public Library, 830
 Climate, 34
 Cloberry and Company, 200, 202, 205, 207, 208, 209, 210
 "Clover Fields," Queen Anne's County, 785

- Clowes, Timothy, 727, 729
 Clubs, 822, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 830, 832, 888, 1028
 Clymer, George, 425
 Coard, C. R., 598
 Coastal Plain, 21, 23, 27, 34
 Cobb Brothers, 585, 620
 Cobbington, John, 59
Cockatrice, The, 205, 206, 1003
 Cockey, Mary, 829, 832
 — Sarah F., vi, 832
 Code of Rules, Washington College, 728
 Coe, William G., Rev., 569, 570
 Co-educational Program, 734
 Coercive Acts, 390
 Coffin, Greenbury, 841
 Coinage and Money, 261
 Coke, Thomas, 174
 Cokesbury, 569, 571
 Cole, John, 134
 — William, 1001
 Coleridge, Samuel Taylor, 812
 Colleges (See under respective names)
 Collier's invasion, 156
 Colonels, by counties, 401
 Colonial Land System, 315-329
 Colonial Officials, 189-191
 Colonial Trade, 1689 to 1715, 279-293
 Colonization and settlement, 189-217
 Colora, 1049
 Colored Churches, 575
 Colton, Rev. Dr., 573
 "Combsberry," Talbot County, 785
 Comegys, William, 347, 348
 Comegys Bight, 928
 "Comegys House," Kent County, 781, 935
 Commercial facilities, 1081
 Commission, Indians, 422
 Commissioners of Trade and Plantations, 235
 Commissioners of Northampton County, 45
 Commissions of Marque and Reprisal, 369
 Committee of Correspondence and Inter-course, 390
 Committee on Emancipation and Colonization, 551
 Committee on Female College, 747
 Committee of Inspection, 150
 Committee of Observation, 392, 400, 401, 413, 414, 417, 419
 Committee of Privileges and Elections, 153
 Committee of Safety, 152, 157
 Committee of Seven, 394
 Committee of Sixteen, 399
 Communication and Education, 976-979
 Communications, 595-597
 Community School, 124
 Commutation Act, 323
 Compact of 1785, 231
 Concord Church, Caroline County, 1103
 Conegocheague, 377
 Confiscation of property, 415
 Conley, Earl E., 851
 Conner, John G., 711
 Connor, Philip, Capt., 926
 Conowingo Creek, 23
 Conoy tribe, 63
 Conrad, Earl, 804, 817
 Conscientious objectors, 417
Conservator, The, 541
 Consolidating Act of 1784, 430
 Constables, office, 641
Constellation, 919
 Constitution, State, 512, 550, 552, 642, 649, 715
 Constitutional Conventions, Eastern Shore, 451, 479, 540, 550, 554, 713, 714
 Continental Congress, 390-392
 — Members, 889
 Continental Navy, 919
 "Conway Cabal, The," 423
 Coode, John, 229, 253, 255, 256
 Cooke, Ebenezer, 293, 294, 809
 Cooke's Point, 406
 Coolidge, Calvin, 808
 Cooper, Mrs. Anna Jones, 763
 — James Fenimore, 793, 795
 — Joab G., 727, 728
 — Nathaniel, Capt., 954
 Cope, Thomas, Dr., 688
 Copley, Sir Lionel, 254, 255
 Corbin, Francis, 173
 — George, Col., 156, 170
 — Lilyan Stratton, 830
 Corbin Memorial Library, Crisfield, 830
 Cordova, 966, 982
 "Core Homestead, The," Accomack County, 784
 Corn, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 497, 578, 579, 580
 Cornwallis, Thomas, Capt., 205, 927
 Coroner, office, 643
 Corsica River, 57
 Costin, Robert S., 608
 Cottlinghams Creeke, 51
 Cotton, John, 126
 — William, Rev., 117
 Coulbourn, John I., 735
 Council of Maryland, 48
 Council of Safety, 391, 392, 393, 400, 401, 419
 Council of State, 395
 County, 631-657
 — Administration, 635-653
 — Board of Health, 772, 774
 — Committees, 149-152
 — Court House, Princess Anne, 744
 — Free Schools, 701, 703
 — Health Department Law, 771
 — Militia, 161
 — Ministerial Association, 981
 — Registrars, office, 772
 Coursey (See De Courcy), Earl, 829
 — Mrs. Earl, 829
 — Edward, 395
 — John, 227, 1055
 — Thomas, Capt., 1060
 — William, 1055
 Court of Admiralty, 408
 Court of Appeals, 461
 Court of Appeals, Maryland, Judges of, 899, 900
 Court House Point, 1039
 Courthouses in Accomack and Northampton, 617

- Court of Oyer and Terminer, 106
 Court, vice-admiralty, 106
 Courts, types, 106
 Coutts, Sheriff Hercules, 338
 Coventry Parish, Somerset County, 351, 693, 694
 Covington, Nehemiah, 59
 — William Sidney ("Captain Sid"), 837, 841
 Coxe, William, 209
 Craddock, Sally Carroll, 1024
 Craddockville, 32
 Crawford, William H., 960
 Crease, Henry, 448-449
 Crenshaw, Thomas, 175
 Cresop, Thomas, Col., 375
 Creswell, John A. J., 547, 548, 549, 905
 Creswell's Ferry, 1047
 Crisfield, John W (oodland), 542, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 905
 Crisfield, Somerset County, 33, 805, 870, 873 (Illus.), 992, 995, 997, 1006, 1129
 Cropper, John, 154, 155, 160, 161, 164, 173, 177, 180, 600
 Cropper's diary, 159, 165
 Crops, value of, in Accomack and Northampton counties, 580
 Cross', Thomas, School, 968
 Crothers, Austin L., 711, 905
 "Crow, Jim," Laws, 671
 Crawl, Philip A., 393
 Crownfield, Gertrude, 790
 Crumpton, 927, 935, 936, 1067
 Culbreth, Thomas, 1103
 Culpeper, Gov., 77
 Culver, Jack F. A., Jr., 1147
 Culver Motor Company, Salisbury, 1137 (Illus.)
 Cumberland Road, 463, 464
 Cummings, George, Rev., 568
 Cunliffe and Sons, 296, 299, 350, 380, 950
 Cups and Trophies, Canoe Races, 837, 841
 Curratocks, 44
 Currier, Theodore W., 799
 Currituck Sound, 6, 7
 Curry, Henry Milo, 831
 Custis, Daniel Parke, 90, 127
 — Edmund, Capt., 212
 — John, 75, 77, 78, 82, 83, 84, 87, 96, 108, 125, 127, 130, 155
 — John Parke, 84, 96
 — Martha, 127
 — William, 81, 90
 — William H. B., 565, 603
 Custis House, Accomack County, 601 (Illus.)
 Custom Houses, 617
 Cypress trees, 5
 "Daffin House," Caroline County, 1121
 Dagworthy, John, Capt., 375, 377
 — Lieut. Col., 379
 "Dahl's Swamp," or "Topping House," Accomack County, 780
 Dale, Sir Thomas, 74, 79
 Dame's Quarter, 406
 Dames, William, 337
 Daniel, John T., 598
 Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, 326, 393, 433, 434
 Dankaerts, Jasper, 247
 Darnall, Henry, 316, 317, 318
 Darrow, Mrs. Virgia, 831
 Dashiell, Cassius M., 693
 — George, Col., 406
 — James F., 542
 Daugherty, Mrs. E. R., 830
 Daughtery, Walter, 336, 339
Dauntless, 1021
Dauphine, 999, 1079
 Davidson, G. Harry, 1147
 Davis, Cornelia, 827
 — David, 702
 — J. Willard, 831
 — Samuel, Rev., 1083
 da Verrazano (or Verrazzano), Giovanni, 5, 6, 1079
 Dawson, Andrew, Capt., 1015
 Dawson's Wharf, 958
 Day, Raymond Pue (D. Shields), 799
 Deal Island, 997, 998, 1008
 — Church, 1007
 de Allyon, Lucas, 6
 Dean, Hugh, 418
 — John, Capt., 406
 de Avilés, Pedro Menéndez, 6, 7
 — Pedro Menéndez, 2nd, 8
 de Barcia Carballi do y Zuniga, Andrés González, 7, 8
 Debedeavon, Laughing King of the Accomac, 12, 42, 43, 74
 de Bry, Theodore, 4, 14
 de Bry's maps, 4, 14
 Debt book, 323
 Decatur, Stephen, 902, 1089
 Declaration of Rights, Maryland, 394, 417, 455, 649
 Declaration of Rights, Virginia, 172
 Decline of Indians, 179
 De Courcy (see Coursey), Edward, 361
 — Henry, Col., 779
 de Ecija, Francisco, Capt., 9, 10
 Deep Creek, 74
 Deep Water Point, 958
 Deer's Head State Hospital near Salisbury, 655 (Illus.), 774
Defence, 1060
 De Kalb, Baron, 921
 de Labadie, Jean, 247
 Delaware, 1, 20, 21, 22
 Delaware Bay, 8, 21
Delaware's Buried Past, 39
 Delaware and Chesapeake bays, 39
 Delaware and Chesapeake Canal, 20, 475
 Delaware Conference Academy, 745, 747, 751
Delaware's Forgotten Folk, 39
 Delaware Indians, or Lenni Lenape, 2, 55, 57
 Delaware-Maryland peninsula, 24
 Delaware Railroad, 473, 480
 Delaware River, 58
Delaware State Journal, 465-466
 Delawares, 55, 58
 Delmar, 1127, 1129, 1138, 1142

- Delmarva area, 20, 406, 660, 661, 666, 747, 759
 Delmarva Light, Heat and Refrigeration Corporation, 599
 Delmarva Peninsula, 39, 62, 64
 de Marques, Juan Menéndez, 7, 8, 9
 Democracy in America; Status Quo in Talbot, 955-956
 Dennis family, 751
 Dennis, Alfred Pearce, 808
 — Amanda Elizabeth, 811
 — George Robertson, 905
 — John, 902
 — Littleton P., Sen., 468, 469
 — Samuel K., Judge, 831, 902
 Denroche, Chris T., Rev., 449
 Denton, Caroline County, 25, 664, 1099, 1101, 1105, 1111-1112, 1116, 1119, 1120
 — Academy, 1105
 — Church, 1101, 1111
 — Ferry, 1108
 Department of Education (State), 646
 Department of Fish and Wildlife, 582-583
 Department of Maryland, 543
 Depredations of the British Navy, 156-160
 Depression of 1837-42, 451
 Depressions, Elections and Life in Town, 959-961
 Deputy Health Officer, 771, 772
 de Quexos, Pedro, 6
 Description, General, of the Eastern Shore, 17-21, 29-34
 Diamond State Telephone Company, 597
 Dick, Elisha Cullen, Dr., 738
 — F. McFadden, Dr., 813
 — Mrs. Frank M., 738
 Dickens, Charles, 791, 815
 Dickinson, Charles, 1100
 — Henry, 432
 — James, 296, 457
 — John, vi, 790, 796, 802, 809, 817, 902, 1147
 — Samuel, 902
 Dickinson College, 732
 Dickinson House, 945
 Difference between Eastern and Western Shore, 778
 Diggs, William, Deputy Gov., 254
 Dinwiddie, Gov., 137, 373
 Dirickson's Creek, Delaware, 48
Discourses on Reformation of Manners in General, 352
 Disfranchisement of all freemen, 1670, 228
 Distress laws, 179
 District Court, first session, 1790, 460
 Diversification, Eighteenth Century, 293-300
 Dix, John A., Maj. Gen., 543, 546, 596, 605, 606, 607, 608, 1138
 Dixon, Ambrose, 121
 — James, 831
 — Jeremiah, 237
 — Robert Bartlett, II, 831
 "Dr. Ballard" or "Lockerman House," Somerset County, 783
 Dole, Esther M(ohr), Dr., 388 (quoted), 411, 738
 Dominion, 1054
 Done, John, 1081
 Dorchester, 1017
 Dorchester County, 21, 26, 29, 51, 174, 272, 322, 324, 632, 826-827, 860, 911, 977, 1013-1030
 — Churches, 1017, 1018, 1020, 1028, 1029
 — Libraries, 826-827
 — Prominent Homes, 1016, 1018, 1026, 1027, 1028, 1029
 — School Visitors, 701
 — Towns and Villages, 1016, 1017, 1024, 1027, 1028
 Dorchester County Public Library, Cambridge, 822, 826
 Dorrington, William, 55
 Dorset, Maryland, 56
 Dorsey, Levin, 1018
 — Thomas B., 477
 Dos Passos, John, 799, 817
 Dougherty, John, Capt., 954
 Doughoregan Manor House, 686
 Doughty, Francis, 116
 Douglass, Frederick, 534-535, 792, 803, 804, 807, 817
 Dover, Talbot County, 346, 456-458
 Dover Bridge, 1108
 Dover Ferry Farm, 964
 Dow, Lorenzo, 690
 Downes, Vachel, 454
 Downing, William, 174
 Downs' Crossroads, 937
 Draper, Alexander, 1078
 Dreiser, Theodore, 800
 Drummond, Richard, 175, 178
 Drummond Ponds, 32, 34
 Drummondtown, 113, 178
 Dryden, Alton, 764
 Duer, Robert F., Judge, 1147
 Duke, Oliver, 837
 Dulaney, J. H., freezing plant, Exmore, 581
 Dulany, Daniel, 267, 322, 325, 387, 390
 Dumschott, Frederick W., Prof., 740
 Duncañ, Prof., 729
 Dunkards, 1115
 Dunmore, Lord, 153, 414, 918
 Dunmore's activities, 156
 Dunn, Jacob C., 752
 — Leland L., 764
 Dunning, H. A. B., Dr., 736
 Durham County, 235
 Dutch War of 1652, 76
 Dutch in Cecil County, 1035
 Duvall, Charles T., 813, 819
 Earle, James, Sr., 1069
 — James Tilghman, 902
 — Mrs. Michael, 361
 — Richard Tilghman, 458, 902, 1059
 — Swepson, 20, 805, 807, 815, 902
 East, H. L., 599
 East New Market, 1027
 Eastern Branch of the University of Maryland, 745
 Eastern Maryland, 21
 Eastern Neck, 933
 — Neck Island, 333
 Eastern Public Service Company of Virginia, 600

- Eastern Shore commissioners for the collection of taxes, 154
 — compact, 454, 461, 462
 — custom house, 334
 — explorations, 48
 — Indians, 45, 53, 55, 61, 62, 63, 65
 — tributaries of Chesapeake Bay, 64
 Eastern Shore Community Concert Association, Salisbury, 767
 Eastern Shore Experiment Station, Onley, 582
 Eastern Shore Hatchery, 865 (Illus.)
Eastern Shore Herald, 598
 Eastern Shore of Maryland Literature, 787-819
Eastern Shore News, The, 161, 598
 Eastern Shore Public Service Company of Virginia, 599
 Eastern Shore Railroad, 472, 473, 589, 882, 883
 Eastern Shore Society of Baltimore City, The, 788, 826, 906
Eastern Shore Star, Easton, 518
 Eastern Shore State Hospital, Cambridge, 773
 Eastern Shore State Tuberculosis Sanitarium, 1144
 Eastern Shore Steamboat Company, 586, 587
 Eastern Shore Steamship Company, 615
 Eastern Shore Transit Company, 593
 Eastern Shore Triumvirate, 360
 Eastern Shore of Virginia Produce Exchange, 579, 581
Eastern Shore Weekly Herald, 598
Eastern Virginian, 598
 Eastern and Western Shores, 20
 Easton, 22, 456, 458, 459, 460, 461, 542, 664, 684, 693, 779, 830, 831, 844, 947, 962, 963, 966, 969, 979, 982
Easton (ship), 967
 Easton Academy, Young Ladies, 968
 Easton Community Concert Association, 979
Easton Gazette, 466, 470
Easton Star, 477, 478
 Easton Utilities Commission, 972
 Eastville, 33
 Eccleston, John, 296
 — John B., 728
 — John Bowers, 902
 — Joseph R., 474
 Eckenrode, 172, 173
 Economic and Commercial Services, 164-170
 Economic Interests, 540, 541
 Economic Problems, 430-432
 Economic Pursuits, 279-313
 Eden, Robert, Gov., 389, 702
 — Robert, Sir, 416
 Eden, Somerset County, 27
 Eden School, 702
 Edmonds, Alfred B. G., 598
 — John W., 577, 598
 — John W., Jr., 598
 Edmondston, William, Rev., 418
 Education, 176-177, 575-578
 — law of 1663, 699
 — of handicapped children, 716
 — Books, Religion, Circuses, Croquet, and other Trivia, 968, 970
 Educational Society, 747
 Eglantine, A Typical Eastern Shore Farm, 661 (Illus.)
 "Eight million dollar bill," 472, 473
 Eight original shires, 75
 18th & 19th Century Homes on Virginia Eastern Shore, 617
 Ekaitis, George, 738
 Elections, 652
 — of 1864 and 1865, 552-553
 — of importance, 545-549
 — Supervisor of, 649
 Electoral College, 395
 Elias Williamson's Old Mill at Pealiquot Point, 193 (Illus.)
 Elisors, 644
 Elizabeth City County, 106, 136
 Elizabeth River, 4, 8
 Ellicott's Mills, 464
 Elliott, Thomas, Capt., 406
 — William, 175, 176
 Elliott Manuscript, 171, 174
 Elk Ferry, 404
 Elk Landing, 1043
 Elk Mills, 1049
 Elk Neck, Maryland, 58
 Elk Neck State Forest, 1049
 Elk Neck State Park, 1049
 Elk River, 13, 23, 279, 377, 442, 1044
 Elkton, 23, 34, 35, 405, 406, 458, 482, 664, 1039, 1049, 1050
 — Meeting, 542
 Elkton Academy, 1042
Elsie Dinsmore, 794
 Elysian Fields of Virginia, 133
 Elzey, Arnold, Gen., 1008
 — John, 232
 Emancipation spirit, 512
 Embargo law, 159, 180
 Emerson, Elizabeth, 298
 — Mrs. Hackett, 827, 828
 Emmanuel Protestant Episcopal Church, Chestertown, 688, 726
 Emory, Frederic, 499-502, 527, 795, 828, 829, 851
 — John, 732
 — Thomas, Gen., 497, 498, 499, 525, 526
 — Thomas, Sen., 468, 473
 — William Tilghman, vi
 Emperor of the Nanticoke, 50, 55
 Emperor of the Assateague, 48
 Endowment Committee, 747
 Endowment Fund Campaign, 735
 England and the English, 789, 910, 918, 923, 925, 929, 948, 949, 998, 999, 1015, 1018, 1020, 1021, 1039, 1040, 1043, 1062, 1063, 1070, 1080, 1089, 1098, 1131, 1132, 1133, 1134, 1136
 English colony, 9
 — colonization, 5
 — explorers, 10
 — influence in Somerset, 999
 — map, 7
 — nomenclature, 52
 — occupation, 8
 — party, 49
 — Presbyterians (first settlement), 684, 685
 — settlers, 2, 41, 51

- Toleration Act of 1689, 121, 122
- Ennals, John, Col., 406
- Thomas, Capt., 419
- Thomas, Lieut. Col., 406
- Enoch Pratt Free Library of Baltimore City, vi, 788, 821, 826, 829
- Enrollment in the public schools, 1949-1950, 719
- Enterprise Steamship Company, 967
- Entertainment of travelers, 308
- Entick, John, Rev., 358
- Eocene, 24-27
- Episcopal Church (Anglican), Maryland, 686, 687, 688, 691
- Episcopal Church reference collection, branch library of Diocese of Easton, 822, 834
- Episcopal Churches, Maryland, 821
- Episcopalians, 807, 934, 947, 970, 1045, 1053, 1070, 1128, 1143
- Epps, William, Capt., 74, 80, 104
- Erection of salt works, 166
- Erskine, Alexander, 1082
- Escheat, 323
- European conquests in the New World, 39
 - influence, 41
 - manufacture, 57
 - merchants, 17
- Evangelical practice, 175
- Evans, Alexander, 546
 - Hugh Davey, 517
 - Noah T., 608
 - Thomas, 565
- Evelin, George, Capt., 207, 208, 926
- Everett, Joseph, 174
- Evergreen*, 764
- Ewing, Edwin, 811
 - Patrick, 455
 - William, 811
- Excelsior Pearl Works, Inc., Federalsburg, 868
- Excepted Virginia counties, 609
- Exchange by barter, 272
- Executive Council, 152
- Exmore, 32, 33
- Exmore Ice & Storage Company, 599
- Exmore Light & Power Company, 599
- Expansion of Maryland School System, 715
- Experiment*, 1062, 1068
- Eyre, Littleton, 97, 125, 132, 173
 - Severn, 150, 176
- "Eyre Hall," Northampton, 780
- Eyre Memorandum Book*, 133
- Fabian battles, 321
- Fair Hill, 23
- Fairlee, 928
- Fallin, Daniel, Maj., 406
- Famed Baseball Players from Eastern Shore, 845-848
- Famous Wye Oak, Wye Mills, 58 (Illus.)
- Farlow's Hatchery, Pittsville, 1140 (Illus.)
- Farm Labor Camps, 862
- Farm life on the Shore, 808
- Farm Real Estate Trends, Study of, 864
- Farmer, Plight of the Small, 949-950
- Farmer and Fisherman*, 599
- Farmers' organizations, 864
- Farming, 1118
- Faulkner, William, 815
- Fawcett, John, 109
- Feddeman, Philip, Col., 406
- Federal aid to education, 755
- Federal Constitution, 432-437
- Federal Emergency Relief Act, 647
- Federal Smith-Hughes Act, 716
- Federal surplus in 1837, 712
- Federalsburg, 25, 664, 1107, 1109-1111, 1116
- Federalsburg Times*, 480-481
- Fee proclamation, 1770, 389
- Feeblemindedness rate, 667
- Feidler, Gladys, 761
- Felton, John, 120, 1014
- Female Academy of Easton, 968
- Fendall, Josiah, Capt., 927
 - Josias, Gov., 227, 229, 233, 234
- Ferguson, Colin, Dr., 726
- Ferries, 305, 306
- Ferry service, 583-584
- Fiction, 789-802
- Field, Mrs. J. Randolph, 830
- Fielding, Henry, 791
- Fillmore, Millard, 921, 961
- Fines for alienations, 252
- Finley, Martha, 795
 - Samuel, Rev., 710, 902, 1046
 - William, Dr., 542
- Finney, E. B., Dr., 574
- Fire-Fighting Equipment of an Earlier Day, Salisbury, 1133
- Fires, 832, 955, 1018, 1043, 1064, 1080, 1084, 1086, 1135, 1136
- First Continental Congress, 391
- First Discovery and Settlement of Virginia*, William Stith, 2
- First dispute between Catholics and Protestants, 1638, 220
- First Presbytery in America, 685
- First Protestant Episcopal Bishop of Maryland, 726
- First school in Kent County, Chestertown, 701, 702
- Fish, 488
- Fisher, Benjamin T., 598
 - Charles T., M.D., 1147
 - John, 337
 - Miers W., 603
- Fisher, Miers W., Law and Miscellaneous Library of, 612
- "Fisher House," Northampton County, 785
- Fishing and Fowling, 198
- Fishing Creek, 1021
- Fishwicke, William, 296
- Fitchett, Beverly T., 615
- Fitchett House, Near Kiptopeke, Northampton County, 179 (Illus.)
- Fitzgerald, F. Scott, 799
- Fitzhugh, William Bullitt, 598
- Five Nations Iroquois, 52, 55
- Fleet(e), Henry, Capt. (Capt. Harry), 14, 59, 74, 80, 93, 204
- Fleming, Maurice, Dr., 763
 - Thomas, Col., 157
- Fletcher, Charlotte, 831
 - Richard D. L., 598
 - Theodore E., 851
- Floater delegate, 564
- Flowers, Jake, 846, 847, 849

- Floyd, John K., 584
 — William T., 588
 "Flying Camp," 422
 Folly Landing, 135
 Fontaine, Mrs. E. C., 833
 — E. Clarke, Dr., vi
 — Mary Stimpson, 833
 Fontaine, Mary Stimpson, Memorial Library, 833
 Fookes (Fowkes), Thomas, 113
 Footner, Hulbert, 333, 806, 815, 998, 1022
 Ford, Harry Pringle, 803, 818
 — Lawrence, Dr., 740
 — Leslie (see Mrs. Zenith Brown), 800-801
 Foreign immigration, 540
 Foreign Scholarship Fund, 766
 Forman, Ezekiel, 364
 — Henry Chandlee, 777, 1026
 — Joseph, Col., 361
 — Thomas Marsh, 364
 Formation of the Coastal Plain, 22-23, 37
 Forqueran, L. R., Rev., vi
 Fort Branch, 54
 — Cumberland, 376, 377, 378, 440
 — Duquesne, 379
 — Frederick, 377, 378, 379, 440
 — Lafayette, 544
 — McHenry, 444, 542, 543, 544, 1004
 — Monroe, 611
 — Necessity, 137
 — Stoakes, 958
 — Warren, 544
 Forwood, Armor T., 474, 475
 Foster, James W., vi, 829, 1147
 Fox, George, 122, 684, 802, 1001
 — Susan Gibson, 833
 Fox Island, 33
 Foxcroft-Gettering case, 109
 Fox-hunting, 490, 852
 Foxwell, Senator, 739
 Foxx, Jimmy, 845
 Francis, Tench, 421
 — Turbett, 422
 Franklin, Benjamin, 803, 918
 Franklin City, 33
 Frazier, John, 922
 — William, Capt., 1121
 "Frazier Flats House," Caroline County, 1120
 Frederick, fifth Lord Baltimore, 430
 Frederick, sixth Lord Baltimore, 237
 Frederick, 542
 — City, 464
 — County, 382
 Fredericksburg, 176
 Fredericktown, 378, 382, 383, 461, 1037, 1039
 Fredericktown and Georgetown burned, 443
 Free Negroes, 552
 Free schools, 124
 Freedman's Bureau, 552, 1116
 Freedmen's Aid Committee, 747
 Freedmen's Aid Society, 745, 746
 Freeman Plantation, 114
 French coastal bases, 7
 — Huguenots, 7
 — transcontinental passage, 7
 — and Indian War, 136-137, 373
 — and Indians, 378, 379
 Frenchtown, 442, 1040, 1044
 Frenchtown and New Castle Railroad Company, 1044
 Friends Meeting House, Easton, 423 (illus.), 807
 "Friends of America," 399
 "Friendship Hall," East New Market, 1024
 Frost, Daniel, Hon., 603
 — Robert, 815
 Fruit, 280, 488
 Fruitland, 1142
 Frysinger, W. Maslin, 746, 750
 Fugitive Slave Law, 541
 Fuller, Edmund, 792
 — Thomas, 518
 Fur trade, 279, 280
 Gale, Levin, 418, 1145
 — Raisin M., 474
 Galena, 933, 936, 937
 Galbraith, John, 1082
 Galloway, James, 336
 — John, 364
 — Samuel, 340
 "Gallows Field," Queenstown, 1057
 Gangascoe, 43
 Gany, William, 81
 Gardiner, Charles, 523
 Gargaphia, 101, 102
 Garland, William, 1061
 Garnett, George, 347, 356
 Garretson, Freeborn, Rev., 171, 175, 689, 1020
 — Jonathan, 175
 Garrison, Judge George Tankard, 565
 — William, 155
 — William Lloyd, 1004
 Garrison's Chapel, 568
 Gary, John, 1014
 — Stephen, 1014, 1026
 Geddes, William, 332, 333, 334, 341
 General Assembly, 78, 429, 395, 441
 General Court, 456, 461
 "Genezir," Worcester County, 780
 Geography, 17-37
 — by counties, 23-27
 George III, 1098
 George, Joshua, 267
 George Avery Bunting Library of Washington College, 788, 828
 Georgetown, 24, 57, 350, 378, 407, 936, 1037
 Georgetown College, 692
 Georgian Churches on the Eastern Shore, 784
 Gerard, Thomas, 220, 684
 Gibson, Abraham, 419
 — Jacob, 496, 497, 954
 — John, 443, 955
 Gifford, James, 800, 801 (see also Howard, Warren)
 Gilbert, Bartholomew, 10, 11, 1000
 Gildart, Alderman, 296
 Giles, Jacob, 337
 Gill, John, 800, 814
 — W. G., 449
 Gillespie, Mrs. David, 831
 — Mabel, 831
 — Mrs. Martha Cahoon, 828, 829
 Gilpin, John, 1042

- Joseph, 1042
 Gingaskins (Gingascoes), 179
 Girdletree, 1090
 Gist, Mordecai, 404, 458
 — Nathaniel, 157
 Glass, John, 1131
 Gloucester Town, 936, 937
 Godfrey, Margie, 833
 Godlington, Thomas, 927
 "Godlington Manor," Kent County, 780
 Godwin, Joseph, 113
 Goggin, William L., 563
 "Golden Age" of agriculture, 580
Golden Fortune, 944
 Goldsborough, Charles, 362 365, 366, 725
 — Charles W., Gov., 902, 1020, 1021, 1028
 — Edmund K., 806
 — Greenbury, 406, 954
 — John, 387, 389
 — Laura (Hill), 894-897
 — Phillips Lee, Gov., 973, 1025, 1028
 — Robert, 390, 391, 393, 394, 434, 437, 458, 725, 902, 903, 1018, 1020, 1068
 — Robert Henry, 493, 903
 — T. Alan, Judge, vi, 632, 739, 889, 893
 — Mrs. Willemina, 1028
 — William, 300, 954
 — William T., 554
 Gonzalez, Vincente, Capt., 8, 9
 Goodwin, Frank, 20, 21, 659, 682
 — Maud Wilder, 789
 Goose Creek, 54, 56
 — Farm, 784
 Gootee, A. S., 598
 Gordon, James, Rev., 421
 — John, Rev., 360, 363, 418
 Gorman, Arthur P., 963
 Gosport, 105
 Goucher, John F., 746, 750
 Gould, Clarence P., Dr., vi, 734, 735
 Governor of Delaware, communication to Maryland, 463
 Governors of Maryland before 1776, 189-191, 898-899
 Graham, Iram, 833
 — Samuel A., Col., 1138
 — Mrs. Samuel A., 833
 Grahame, Charles, 387
 Grain, 280
 — tax, 324
 Grand Lodge of Maryland (Masonic), 726
 Gransky, Mrs. Lucile, 825
 Grant, Dorothy Fremont, 789
 Grason, Richard, 522
 — William, Gov., 903, 1062
 Grasse, Count de, 424
 Grattan, F. O., 832
 Grave of Rev. Joshua Thomas, "Parson of the Islands," at Deal Island, 225 (Illus.)
 Graves, Elizabeth, 577
 — Thomas, 74, 80, 107
 Gray, Elizabeth Janet, 831
 — M., Rev., 571
 Gray's Inn Creek, 936
 "Great Bay, The," 1, 2, 4, 7, 10
 Great Choptank Parish in Dorchester County, 694
 "Great Gatsby," 799
 Great House Plantation, St. Augustine, 1043
 Great Machipongo River, 30,
 — Inlet, 74
 Green, Jonas, 349, 355
 Greenaway, Emerson, 829
 Greenbackville, 33
 Greenberry, Nicholas, Col., 255
 Greenbie, Marjorie Barstow, 793, 1024
 Greene, Thomas, 212
 Greenfield Castle, near Cecilton, 471 (Illus.)
 Green Hill Church, 1145
 "Green Hill" or "St. Bartholomew's Church" in Wicomico County, 784
 Greenhow, Robert, 6
 Greensboro, Caroline County, 1099, 1101, 1107, 1109, 1117
 — Church, 1109
 Grenville, George, 386
Greyhound, The, 1079
 Grieb, Bill, 837
 Groome, J. C., 542
 — James Black, 905
 Grosvenor, 18
 Guest, Edgar, 812
 Guildford, 94
 Guildford Creek, 122, 125
 Gunby, John, 903, 1081
 Hack, George, 243
 — James Fookes, 104
 Hackett, Mrs. Grover, 827
 Hack's Neck, 74
Hactenus Inculta, 201
 Haddaway, William Webb, Capt., 954
 Hagerstown, 464
 Hail Point, 333
 Hakluyt, Richard, 5, 10
 Hall, James A., 597
 Hall Telephone Company, 507
 Hallam, Grace, 762
 Hallwood, 33, 34
 Hambleton, Edward, 963
 — Edward Needles, 494
 — Phil., 381
 — William, Capt., 954
 Hambleton's *Life of Henry A. Wise* (1856), 565
 Hamilton, Alexander, 423, 440, 1040
 — Andrew, 126, 127
 Hammond, John, 387
 — Larry G., 29
 — Nicholas, 493, 494, 963
 Hampden-Sydney College, 176
 Hampton, 177
 Hampton Roads, 1
 Hancock, Carolyn Louise, 1077
 Hands, Judge Bedingfield, 335
 Handy, Alexander H., 541
 — George, 902
 — Isaac, Col., 1145
 — Joshua R., 474
 — Levin, Maj., 1146
 — Samuel, 1081
 Hanmer, J(ohn), 296, 298
 Hanson, Alexander Contee, Judge, 434
 — George A., 808
 — John, Col., 335
 — John, Jr., 387

- Harborton, 583
 Hardcastle, Robert, 1121
 — Thomas, 1121
 Harford County, 24
 Harman, Charles, 59, 74, 81, 93, 107
 Harmanson, John, 150, 165
 Harness Racing, 850-851
 Harper, James K., 1067
 Harrington, Emerson C., Gov., 1025, 1028
 — Norman, 979
 — Samuel M., 732
 Harris, Evelyn, 808
 — Joel Chandler, 806
 — John, 1066
 Harrison, Benjamin, 79
 — Charles W., 588, 589, 593
 — George T., vi, 874, 1147
 — Henry, 337
 — J. Camper, 874
 — James H., 584
 — O. N., 874
 — Robert, 419
 — S. Taylor, 874
 — Samuel Alexander, 803
 — W. Henry, Capt., 961
 — William, 404
 Harrisville, 23
 Hart, John, 256, 257, 265, 269
 Harte, Bret, 794
 Hartley, Rev., 689
 Harvey, Sir John, 95, 206, 210
 Harwood, Thomas, Jr., 391
 Hastings, Frederick, S., 851
 Hatch, John, 228
 Hatsawap, 54, 55
 Hatton, John, 957
 — Thomas, 225, 227
 — William, 153
 Havre de Grace, 442
 Hawkins, Ernault, 1056
 — John, 1056, 1057
 — Thomas, 227
 Hawley, Jerome, 208
 Hawthorne, Nathaniel, 793, 797, 815
 Haynie, Ezekiel, Dr., 744
 Hayward, George R., 493
 — Thomas, 406
 — William, 408, 493, 958
 Head of Elk (Elkton), 405
Headlight, The, 598
 Health and the Medical Profession, 356,
 357, 771-775
 Health Problems and the Schools, 774
 Hearn, W. Edward, 37
 Hearne, John L., Dr., 1086
 Hebard, Joseph H., 576
 Hebrews, 694
 Hebron, Wicomico County, 1142
 Heck, Earl L. W., 241, 804
 Heckewelder, John, Rev., 2
Helen, 1086
 Hemingway, Ernest, 799
 Hemp, 295, 385
 Hemsley, Mary (Polly), 361
 — William, 361, 1055, 1059, 1061, 1062,
 1064
 Henderson, Helen, 825
 — Jacob, Rev., 268
 Henry, Daniel Maynadier, 545, 905
 — Esther, 56
 — Jake, 1130
 — James, 150, 173, 177
 — John, 726, 903, 1018, 1020, 1028, 1078,
 1082
 — Mrs. Margaret S., 826
 — Mrs. R. G., 1147
 — Robert, 515
 — William, Capt., 404, 918
Henry Esmond, 790
 Hermitage, The, 360
 Herrman, Augustine, 28 (Illus.), 31, 99,
 104, 241-3, 246, 303, 361, 691, 802, 804,
 1035, 1044
 — Casparus, 243, 247, 1036
 — Ephraim, 247, 248
 Hersey, Solomon, 689
 Herzog, Charley (Buck), 847
 Hessian fly, 486, 490, 497
 Hicks, Thomas Holliday, 476-79, 540-42,
 545, 548, 551, 604, 804, 903, 1022, 1023,
 1029
 Hicktopeake, 12
 Higgins, Mrs. Clarence, 827
 — Mrs. Frank, 827
 — Martin M., 808, 972
High Jenkins, 966
 High Schools, 575, 576, 710
Highland Light, 967, 1086
 Highways, 594-595, 879-882
 Hill, Clement, 254
 — Joseph, 418
 — Norman Alan, 807
 — Thomas, 449
 Hillsboro, Caroline County, 25, 1103, 1105,
 1107, 1108, 1109
 — Church, 1103, 1108
 — School, 706
 Hindman, Edward, 954
 — Jacob, Maj., 1064
 — James, 404, 523, 524, 954
 — John, Dr., 404
 — William, 391, 418, 419, 523, 903
 Hines, Jesse K., 543
 Historic Homes of Cecil County, 1049
 Historical Society of Kent County, 930
 Hitch, Susan, 827
 Hodgkins, Anthony, 113
 Hodson, Clarence, 739
 Hodson Trust, 739
 Hoffman, Mrs. Paul, 824
 Hog Island, 33
 Hogs, 488, 490
 Hole in the Wall, Talbot County, 966
 Holland, James, 521, 522
 — William H., 553
 Hollingsworth, Henry, Col., 1040, 1042
 — Jacob, 406, 1042
 — Zebulon, 1042, 1046
 Hollis, John, 59
 Holloway, William J., Dr., 761
Holly Leaf, 764, 766
 Hollyday, Henry, 387, 493
 — James, 380, 387, 389, 418, 1058, 1059
 Homes, old, and old families, 807
 Hood, Zachariah, 386
 Hooper, Henry, 401, 406, 418, 1019
 Hooper's Island, 406, 686
 Hooper's Straits, 406, 415
 "Hope House," Talbot County, 783
 Hopkins, Samuel, 1078

- Hopkins, Johns, University Library, 821
 Hopkins & Brothers, 614
 Hopper, Charles C., 449
 Horne Bay, 1014
 Horne's Point, 1018
 Horse and Buggy Days in Pittsville, 666 (Illus.)
 Horses and horse racing, 499
 Horsey, Hanson, 849
 — Stephen, 121
 Hoskins, Anthony, 134
 — Frank, 564
 Hospitality and Recreation, 133-136
 Houghton, Arthur A., 1147
 — Arthur A., Jr., 693, 829
 — Arthur C., 1071
 House of Delegates, 395
 Howard, Benjamin C., 542, 546
 — George, 463, 467
 — John Eager, 440
 — Kate H., 740
 — Michael, 267
 — Warren (James Gifford), 800, 817
 Howe, John, 107
 Howell, William R., Dr., vi, 631, 672, 679, 739, 808, 1147
 Howell's Point, 925, 928
 Hubbard, Wilbur Ross, 736
 Hudson, John, 1014
 Huett, John, 1141
 — John, Rev., 1141
 Hughes, Philip, 351
 — James W., Esq., 1147
 Hughlett, Senator William, 468
 Humphrey's Lake, 1137
 "Hundred of Kent, The," 909
 Hungars Bridge, 131, 132
 Hungars Church, Northampton County, 118, 119, 120 (illus.), 779, 784
 Hungars Creek, 75, 131
 Hungars Ferry, 179
 Hungars Parish, 75, 94, 97, 116, 118, 120, 133, 150, 177, 180, 566
 Hungars River, 132, 406
 Hunt, Leigh, 808
 Huntington, Archer M., 884
 — Collis P., 884
 Hurlock Free Library, 826, 827
 Hutchinson, John W., 584
 Hyde, Paul, 763
 Hyland, John, Capt., 362
 Hynson, Charles, Col., 335, 337
 — Thomas, Capt., 927, 932
 "I. U.-A Historic Shrine in Old Kent," 804
 Import duties, 388
 Imports, 289-292
 Impossible Branch, 129
 Income for Schools, 703
 Incorporation Act, 173
 Indenture System, 6, 86, 87, 88, 89
 Indentured Servant, An, 274-276
 Independence movement, 392
 "Independent companies" of Eastern Shore, 400
 Indian attacks, 377
 — burial customs, 53, 63, 64
 — customs, 60-63
 — dug-out canoes, 6
 — empire on mainland of Virginia, 41
 — food, 5, 61
 — hostilities, 200
 — huts, 49
 — interpreters, 59
 — life on the Eastern Shore, 41, 64
 — lore, 2
 — names, 44
 — nucleus, 64
 — occupants, 39
 — slaves, 85
 — tribes, 2, 41, 46, 47, 49, 53, 924, 1003, 1014, 1016, 1033, 1034, 1046, 1055, 1085, 1095, 1126, 1127, 1141
 — troubles, 45
 — villages, 4, 49, 54
 — witchcraft, 53
 — women, 45
 "Indian Neck," 54
 Indian Queen (Center) and adjacent houses, Charlestown, 436 (Illus.)
 Indian River, 48, 64
 Indians, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 11-14, 39-69
 — in Cecil County in 1678, 244
 — of the Eastern Shore, 5, 60
 — of Maryland, 373
 — of Virginia, 43
 Industries, Early, 101-105
 Industry, 1860, 505-508
 Industry, table, by counties, 506-508
 Industry and Business Arrive to Stay, 965-966
 Infantry units of Virginia Eastern Shore listed, 604
 Influence of Methodism upon Negro Education, 745, 755
 Ingle, Harold E., vi
 — Richard, 211
 Ingraham, Prentiss, 806
 Inspection Act, 1747, 287, 307
 "Intelligence" Service of Eastern Shore, 163
 Interior of Julia Purnell Museum, Snow Hill, 206 (Illus.)
 International Ladies Garment Workers Union, 868
 Irish potato, 35
 Iron Hill, 23
 Iroquois, 52
 Iroquois League of Five Nations, 49
 Irving, Levin Thomas Handy, Judge, 905
 — Washington, 793
 Isle of Wight Oil Company, 29
 Isolation of Eastern Shore, 458
 Itoyatin, 43
 Jackson, Andrew, 1100
 — John, 419
 — John, Dr., 357
 Jacobite Group, 253
 Jacobs, C. W., 519
 Jamart, Helen, 765
 James I, 11
 — II, 77
 James, Burley W., 599
 — James, 1134
 — Richard, Rev., 202, 683
 — Thomas W., 599
 James and Haywood Case, 130
 James City, 46, 76, 77, 88, 104, 106, 110, 207
 James City County, 172

- James, Pamunkey and Mattaponi rivers, 41
 James River, 2, 11, 12, 105, 165, 166, 168, 172, 192
 Jamestown, 2, 6, 10, 11, 12, 14, 47, 56, 104
 Jamieson, Neil, 164
 "Jane Eyre," 795
 Jay, John, 425
 Jefferson, Mary Elizabeth (Mrs. J. A. B. Wilson), 750
 — Thomas, 44, 56, 425, 440, 1004, 1014
Jefferson (ship), 1062, 1068
 Jeffersonianism, 441
 Jehovah's Witness, 574
 Jenifer family in Maryland, 82
 Jenifer, Benjamin, 518
 — Daniel, 82, 125
 Jenkins, Francis, 1078, 1132
Jersey City Journal, 17
 Jesuits, 6, 684, 686, 692
 "Jim Crow" laws, 671
 Johnny cake, 61
 Johns Hopkins University Press, vi
 Johnson, Andrew, 922
 — George, Col., 121, 1041
 — Gerald W., vi, 219
 — Joe, 791, 792, 1104
 — John H., 599
 — Marie (Mrs. Pezavia O'Connell), 753
 — Mary (Mrs. Marvin Barton), 828
 — Reverdy, 542
 — Thomas, "firebrand of the Revolution," 1098
 — Thomas, Gov., 387, 395, 404, 417, 433, 434, 458
 — Thomas, Jr., 390, 391, 393
 Johnson's Tavern, 1022
 Johnston, George, 808, 811
 Jones, Elias, 808
 — Evan, 349
 — Governor, 10
 — Hugh, 134, 135, 359
 — Isaac D., 468, 554
 — J. S., Dr., 733, 734, 735
 — James, 1145
 — John, Capt., 336
 — John, Col., 1018
 — John Paul, 919
 — Richard, 955
 — Samuel T., 615
 — Thomas, 1078
 — William A., 564
 Joseph, William, 251, 252, 254
Journal of a Voyage in the Ship Warwick, 93
 Journals of Maryland Assembly, 320
 Joshua, Thomas, 56
 Jowles, Henry, Col., 253
 Joynes, Levin, 161
 — Thomas R., 563
 Judges of Court of Appeals of Maryland, 899, 900
 Juries, 641
 "Jury of Matrons," 110
 Kane, George P., Marshal, 543
 Keating, Judge, 829
 — Matilda B., vi, 828, 1147
 — Thomas J., 1067
 — Thomas J., Jr., 829
 Keats, John, 808
 Kecoughtan, residence of Claiborne, 207
 Keen, Vic, 845, 848
 Keester, Adelaide Eliza, 813
 Keith, George, 123
 Kellam, D. M., 594
 — Ezor, 602
 — Thomas C., 611
 Kellam Field, 594
 Keller, 32, 33
 Keller Fair, 618-620
 Keller Fair Grounds, 567
 Kellogg, B. F., 615
 Kendall, John, 178
 — William, 77, 82, 83, 91
 Kennedy, Anthony, 545
 — Florence J., vi
 — John M., 298
 — John Pendleton, 541
 Kennedysville, 936
 "Kennersley" or "Finlay Farm," Queen Anne's County, 783
 Kent, James, 395
 — James, Capt., 404, 1059, 1060
Kent Bugle, 518
Kent Conservator, *The*, 546
 Kent County, 14, 20, 21, 23, 24, 29, 171, 174, 272, 322, 383, 632, 827, 828, 860, 909, 910, 917-938, 977
 — Churches, 933, 934, 937
 — Free School, 335
 — Government Evolution, 926
 — Meeting House, 779
 — Prominent Homes, 917, 927, 930, 935
 — School, 688, 701, 723, 731
 — School Visitors, 701
 — Towns and Villages, 917, 920, 925, 927, 933, 935, 936, 937
 Kent County, Delaware, 20
 Kent Fort, 777, 929
 Kent Fort Manor, Kent Island, Queen Anne's County, 252 (Illus.)
 Kent Island, 2, 14, 20, 24, 59, 198, 199, 200, 201, 205, 206, 207, 211, 212, 227, 443, 789, 795, 801, 909, 917, 923, 924, 946, 958, 1003, 1021, 1034, 1053, 1054, 1060, 1062, 1063, 1068, 1069, 1070
 — controversy, 210-212, 234
 — proceedings against, 207-209
 — settlement and growth, 201-203
 Kent Island Parish, Kent County, 694
 Kent Isle, 93
 Kent Manor, 325
Kent News, Chestertown, 547
 Kent Publishing Company, Inc., 933
 Kent and Upper Queen Anne's General Hospital, 774
 Kerr, Edward, 150, 177
 — John Bozman, 903
 — Sophie (see Underwood, Sophie Kerr), 796, 797, 815, 1147
 Key, Edmund, 387
 — Francis Scott, 444
 — Isaac, 116
 Keyport, 34, 35
 Kibler, J. Thomas, Col., 738, 848-850
 Kilby, John, 1078
 Kimber, George, 339
 King, Emily J., 751
 — Robert, Maj., 290
 King of the Gingoteague, 45

- of Pocomoke, 47, 59
- of Susquehanna Indians, 209
- King George's War, 132, 136, 369, 370
- King William's School at Annapolis, 256, 700
- Kings Creek, Mattawaman, 74
- King's Road (King's Highway), 302
- Kingston, Queen Anne's County, 1058
- "Kingston Hall," Somerset County, 783
- Kiptopeke, King of the Accohannock people, 42
- Kirk, John, 1016
- Knight, Kitty, 443, 790, 813, 815, 920, 925
- Knight, Kitty, House, Georgetown, Kent County, 925
- Knotts, E. Paul, M.D., 1147
- "Know Nothing" movement, 961
- Know Nothing Party, 478, 479, 541, 563, 565
- Knox, Samuel, Rev., 706
- Krebs, Richard (see Valtin, Jan), 801
- Ku Klux Klan, 679
- Kuskarawaok River (see Nanticoke River), 12, 41
- Kuskarawaoks, 48-50
- Labadists, 246-248, 691, 806, 1036
- "Ladies Light Infantry," 422
- Lafayette, Gen., 423, 424, 1044
- Laing, Alexander, 386
- Lake, Henry, Capt., 1018
- Lovey, 1018, 1029
- Lambdin, Robert, 841, 842-843
- "Lamb's Meadows," Kent County, 781
- Land Bounds Act of 1699, 321
- grants, 927, 944, 1014, 1015
- office and proprietor's revenues, 315
- policy, 321-328
- records of Maryland, 63
- values, 504, 505
- Landholders vs. Proprietor, 316-321
- Lane, Allan L., 829
- Ralph, Sir, Gov., 4, 8
- William, 1078
- William Preston, Gov., 825
- Langford, John, Capt., 926
- Langford's Bay, 926, 928, 937
- Langton, Catherine, 1057
- Late Georgian architecture, 782-783
- Latrobe, John Hazlehurst Boneval, 517
- Laughing King of the Accomac (Debe-deavon), 12, 42, 43, 74
- Laughing King Indians, 46
- Law Enforcement, 105-114
- Lawrence, Hilda, 801
- Thomas, Sir, 255, 317, 318
- Laws of Sect, 688
- Lawson, Walter, Dr., 837
- Lawyers, 267-268
- Layfield, George, 174
- "Laymen's Libraries," 821
- Layton, 953
- "League of Peace," 55
- Leary, Columbus A., Capt., 449
- Leatherbury, Mrs. J. C. W., 611
- Lee, Arthur, 425
- Charles, Gen., 423
- Francis Lightfoot, 1026
- General, 1023
- Governor, 169, 424
- John, 1026
- Richard, 79, 237, 246
- Richard, Col., 1015, 1026
- Richard Henry, 1026
- Thomas, 1026
- Thomas Sim, 434
- Leeds, William, 227
- Legal Institutions, 105-114
- Legal Profession in Maryland, 356
- Legislative Commission of 1922, 760
- sessions, 716-719
- Lemmon, Richard, Dr., 1129
- "Lemon Hill," former Salisbury show place, 486 (Illus.)
- Lenape, 57, 63
- Leonard, Ebenezer, 1133
- William J., 1138
- "Leonard" or "Valliant House," Talbot County, 785
- Leopold, 958
- Letcher, John, 563
- Letters of Marque, 408
- Letters of a Pennsylvania Farmer*, Dickinson, John, 388
- Levy and Apportionment of State School Tax in 1865, 1866, 715
- Levy Courts, 633
- Lewes, Delaware, 60
- Lewgar, John, 208
- Lewis, William, 220
- "Lewis House," on Nanticoke River, 781
- Liancourt, Duke De La Rochefoucault, 489, 490
- Liberator, The*, 1005
- Libraries on the Eastern Shore, 126, 127, 821-835
- Company in Centreville in 1874, 828
- Library of Congress, vi
- Eastern Shore Society of Baltimore City, 826
- George Avery Bunting, of Washington College, 788, 828
- Laws, 822-823, 825, 832
- Lotteries, 350
- State Teacher's College, 766, 767
- Life in the Country, 951-952
- Light, The*, 598
- Light Houses and Life Saving Stations on Virginia Eastern Shore, 616-617
- Lillingston, John, Rev., 355
- Linchester, 1112
- Church, 1112
- Linkwood, 26
- Literacy, degree of, 123
- Literature, 787-819
- Litsinger, Elizabeth, vi
- "Little Capital," 460
- Little Choptank, 684, 693
- Elk Creek, 23
- Machipongo Inlet, 74
- Littleton, Ann, 89
- Nathaniel, 45, 89, 90, 125
- Southey, 779
- Littoralist, Charles, letter, 482-483
- Living Room, Shippen Creek farm house, Kent Island, 1069 (Illus.)
- Livingood, Frederick G., Dr., 739, 828
- Livingston, Robert, 424
- Llewellyn, John, 454
- Lloyd family, 783

- Lloyd, Mrs. C. Howard, 831
 — Edward, 393, 418, 434, 903, 944, 954, 955, 963
 — Edward, Col., 256, 257, 259, 324, 325, 328
 — Edward III, 380
 — Edward IV, 491, 521, 522, 523
 — Edward V, 442, 489, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495
 — Edward VI, 495
 — Edward VII, 495
 — Henry, Gov., 905, 1025, 1028
 — James, Capt., 954
 — James, Gen., 921
 — Philemon, 321, 903, 1069
 — Richard, 418
 — Richard, Capt., 327, 362, 379
 — Robert, 389
 Lloyd, Madam Henrietta, inventory of estate, 289-290
 Lloyd Papers, 491
 "Lloyd's Landing Farm," Talbot County, 785
 Lockwood, Henry H., Gen., 548, 563, 596, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 611
 — Henry Hall, Col., 1023, 1138
 "Locust Grove," near Wardtown, Northampton County, 162 (Illus.)
 Locust Neck, 54, 56
 Lodge, J. Shenton, Rev., 567, 568, 571
 Log Canoes, 837-844
 Lombard, Thomas, 227
 London Company's Charter, 201
 Long, Charles Chaille, 905, 1084
 Long Hill, 1146
 Long Love Branch, 119
Longtail, 205, 207
 Longwoods, Talbot County, 982
 — Church, 982
 Lord Baltimore, 809, 926, 927, 944, 949, 1000, 1013, 1016
 Lord Baltimore-William Penn dispute, 237
 Lord Proprietor, 51
 Lords of Trade, 251, 316, 317
 Lost Capital, Dover, 456-458
 Loudon, Earl of, 378
 Louisburg Garrison, 369
 — fall of, 372
 Loveday, Charles T., 1067
 Lovett, Leland C., Comdr., 1089
 Low, W. A., 743
 Lowe, Vincent, Col., 1127
 Lower Northampton, 172
 Lower Parish of Northampton, 116
 Lowes, Capt., 382
 Lowry, James, 841
 Loyalism, 152-156
 Loyalists, 411-420
 Ludington, William, 1054
 Ludwell, Thomas, 108
 Lutherans, 694, 982, 1143
 Lyceum and Library, Salisbury, 821
 Lynch, James, 729
 Lynch, Maryland, 692
 Lyon, John, 155
 Machipongo, 32
 Machipungo Creek, 102, 130
 MacIntyre's Chance, 1146
 Mackey, Albert D., 735
 Maddox family, 751
 Madison, 1021
 Madison's "Memorial and Remonstrance," 173
 Madrid, 79
Maggie, 1086
 Maggs, Benn, Coach, 763, 765
 Magotha Bay, 101
 Magothas, 44
 Magraw, James, Rev., 710 711
 Magruder, J. Bankhead, Maj. Gen., 606
 Mail, 595-596
 Majidi Bay, 132
 "Make Peace," near Crisfield, 386 (Illus.), 779
 Makemie, Francis, (Rev.), 74, 122, 123, 124, 126, 127, 134, 685, 693, 803, 804, 812, 903, 1070, 1084, 1085, 1089, 1127, 1145
 Makemie, 1007
 — Park, 34
 — Presbyterian Church, 685 (Illus.)
 Malcom, Alexander, Rev., 360
 Mallet, John, 59
 Maloy, William Milnes, 829
 Mancha, H. S., 1114
 — J. F., 1114
 Manderville, A. H., 1067
 Mann, Mrs. Ernest, 826
 Manning, Thomas, 1001
 Manning House, 1027
 Manokin, 121
 — Indians, 47
 — River, 47, 63, 744, 991, 993, 1007
 Manor Chapel, 689
 — rents, 325
 Manufacturing, 290, 292, 867-869
 Mapp, G. Walter, 566, 593
 — George S., 584
 Maps, Eastern Shore, 3, 19, 40 (Illus.)
 Marble, Mrs. Martha Smith, 831, 832, 834
 Mardela, 1133, 1141
 Margaret Academy, 177, 576
 Marengo, 443, 496
 Marine, William M(atthew), 449, 811
 Marine Committee, 159
 Mariners' Museum, Newport News, vi
 Marion, James A., Capt., 615
 Marion, Somerset County, 1006
 Market Street Methodist Episcopal Church South, Onancock, 567
 Marsh, Augustina Thompson, 364
 — Nathaniel, Capt., 335
 — Paul, Capt., 1078
 Marshall, C. W. B., 599
 — Charles R., 599
 — Edna, Dr., 762, 768
 Marshall, Edna M., Memorial Student Loan Fund, 762
 Marshy Hope Creek, 25
 Martial Law, 548
 Martin, Daniel, Gov., 903
 — Edward, 1082
 — Ennals, 493
 — Glenn L., 665
 — James, 1081, 1083
 — John, 1083
 — Luther, 432, 433, 434, 437, 512, 702, 903, 1004, 1006
 — Nicholas, Capt., 201, 954

- Robert, 903, 1082, 1083
- Smith K., 605
- Thomas S., 574
- Martin's *Gazetteer of Virginia and District of Columbia* (1835), 579
- Marumsc Indians, 58
- Marydel, 1113
- Marye, William B., vi, 56, 59
- Maryland, Abolition Society, 511
 - Academy, 968
 - Adherence to the Union, 547
 - Articles of Confederation, 429
 - Assembly, 48, 52, 56
 - Archives, 53
 - Boundaries, 191-194
 - Canal Company, 473
 - Canoes, 838-41
 - Charter, 191-194, 236, 315
 - Colonists, 50
 - Colonization Society, 517, 518
 - Constitution, 511
 - Convention, 392, 399, 401, 412, 413, 434-35
 - Council, 50, 55
 - Council of Safety, 157, 407, 412, 413, 414, 418, 419
 - & Delaware Railroad, 967
 - Delaware-Virginia peninsula, 29
 - Delaware & Virginia Railroad, 883
 - Delegates, 392, 432-33, 542
 - Diocesan Library, Baltimore, vi
 - Esso No. 1, 29
 - *Gazette*, 306, 307, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 349, 350, 351, 386, 390, 726, 783
 - Geographical position, 539
 - Governors, 898-99
 - Hall of Records, Annapolis, vi
 - *Historical Magazine*, 6, 7
 - Historical Society, vi, 829, 831
 - House of Delegates, 415, 416
 - Indians, 43
 - *Journal, The*, 433
 - Library Extension, 821, 824, 832, 834, 835
 - Library Survey, 831
 - "Loyalists," 415
 - Map by Herrman, 242
 - in Mexican War, 451
 - "My Maryland," 18
 - Oyster Law, 840
 - Pennsylvania Boundary, 230
 - Petition, 316
 - Publicity Commission, 18
 - Records, 50, 54
 - Royal Colony, 253, 254
 - State College, 755, 821, 822, 1006
 - State Department of Education, 821, 824
 - State Director of Public Libraries, 825
 - State Employment Service, 665
 - State Library Association, 821, 832
 - State Normal School, 760
 - State Planning Commission, 833
 - State Poultry Council, 867
 - State Teachers College, 743-757, 759-770, 760 (Illus.), 1143
 - Tercentenary Pageant, 764
 - Virginia Boundary, 46, 76, 230-233
- Maryland (ship), 966
- Marylanders, arrival of, 203-204
- Mason, Bernard, 315-329
 - Charles, 237
 - George, 173
- Mason Canning Company, Pocomoke City, 1091 (Illus.)
- Mason-Dixon Line, 21, 694, 1096
- Massachusetts* (ship), 967
- Massachusetts Circular Letter, 387
- Massawomekes, 13, 49, 57
- Massey, James A., Rev., 568
- Masseys, 936
- Matapeake, 59, 1054
- Matchapungo Creek, 76
- Mathwas, 57
- Matomkin, 43
- Matompkin, 113, 114
 - Battery, 168
 - Church, 174
 - Inlet, 180
- Mattapony, 105
- Mattawames, 44
- Mattawoman, 44
- Matthew Spencer's English and Classical School, St. Michaels, 968
- Matthews, Anne H., Dr., 762, 765, 766
 - George, 160, 161
 - Samuel, 211
- May, Florence Simonds, Dr., 763
 - John B., Dr., 763
- Maynadier, Daniel, Rev., 345, 346, 355
- McAllister, Otis, Mrs., 827
- McAlpin, John (Jackson Vanderbogart), 812
- McCabe, Argela H., 599-600
 - Caleb, 599
- McClelland, William C., Rt. Rev., 831
- McCooley, John, 811
- McCord, Joseph, 799-800, 801
- McCrosky, Samuel S., Rev., 150, 156, 173
- McDaniel, Florence, 831
 - G. Arthur, 1147
- McHenry, James, 433
- McKeel, Thomas, 497
- McKinsey, Folger, 811, 812
- McMaster, Samuel S., 554
- Mead, Gilbert W., Ph.D., vi, 723, 735, 736, 738, 1147; Vol. III, 1
- Mears, A. H. Gordon, 621
 - James E(gbert), vi, 161, 561
 - James H., 561
 - Nannie W. (Ames), 567
 - Rose (Wise), 561
- Medical Profession and Health, 356, 357, 771-775
- Meekins, Lynn Roby, 794
- Meekin's Neck, 406, 1018
- Meeting House Point, 934
- Meeting Houses (Quaker), 684, 692, 693, 779
- Meigs, Frederick A., vi
- Melling, William, 129
- Melville, Herman, 793
- Melvin, Mrs. Howard, Sr., vi
- Memorial Hospital, Easton, 774
- Mencken, Henry L., 480, 481
- Menonists, 416
- Mercer, John Francis, 433, 434, 437
- Merchants and ship owners, 335
- Merrick, William D., 468

- Messenger, H. B., 868
 — R. W., 792
Messenger, The, 959
 Messick, W. F., Ice Company Plant, Salisbury, 1135 (Illus.)
 Messongo Church, 172
 Methodist Church annals, 175
 — camp meetings, 798
 — dissenters, 120
 — enterprise, 745
 — movement, 175, 688, 689, 690, 691
Methodist, The (vessel), 998
 Methodist Episcopal Church, 174, 745, 746, 747, 751, 753
 Methodists, 114, 174, 566-72, 793, 803, 934, 947, 970, 982, 1020, 1064, 1070, 1103, 1108, 1109, 1129, 1143
 Metropolitan Church, 754
 Michael, John, 90, 118
 Micke, Edward, Rev., 574
 Micou, James Roy, Dr., 732, 738
 Middle Church, 120
 Miles, Clarence W., 851
 Miles River, 443, 954, 966
 — Yacht Club, 841, 980
 Milford Town, 937
 Military and Naval services, 160-164
 Militia, 155, 163, 259-260, 671
 Milk, 488
 Mill Point, 958
 Miller, Arthur, 355
 — Edward T., 889, 897, 898
 — John, 1078
 — Michael, 449
 — Ruth, 825
 Millington, 1065
 — Academy, 1069
Minnie Wheeler, 967, 1113
 Minquas, 57
 Minute Companies, 156
 Mister, John J., 574
 — Mrs. Margaret, 574
 Mitchell, George, 903, 1101
 — John, Dr., 829
 — John P., 1089
 — Josiah, 1081
 Mobjack Bay, 9
 Modern economic life, 857-876
 Modern public education, 712
 Modest Town, 32
 Money, paper, 269-273
 — coins, 273-274
 Monie Creek, 47
 — Indians, 47
 Monoponson, 59
 Monument, Caulk's Field, 449
 Moore, Hopkins, 665
 — James, 335
 — John, 449
 — Robert, 493, 494, 963
 — Thomas, 810
 Moravian missionaries, 53
 Morgan, Henry, Capt., 937
 Morgan College, 754
 Morgan's Creek, 928, 937
 Morris, Clara E., 751
 — Louis W., 751
 — Martha, 833
 — Robert, 296, 297, 360, 422, 425, 426, 903, 950, 1019, 1084
 — William, 1081
 Morris Poultry Farm, Bishopville, 866 (Illus.)
 Morriss, Margaret Shore, 279
 Morse, Albro J., 597
 "Mother of Counties," 910
 Motor Trucks, 594
 "Mount Custis," 577, 578
 Mt. Hermon Road, 29
 Mt. Vernon, 2
 Muhlenberg's Brigade, 160, 161
 Mulberry, Henry, 56
 — Mrs. Mary, 56
 Mullikin, James C., 453, 865, 1084
 Mumford, Lemuel E., 598, 615
 Murdock, William, 387
 Murray, Alexander, 919
 — James, 406, 808
 — William Vans, (Dr.), 56, 903, 1014, 1020, 1028, 1029
 Murry, David, 1078
 Mutual Protection Society, 520
 Mutual Radio Station WBOC, Salisbury, 1146
 "My Lady Sewall's Manor," Dorchester County, 782
 "My Lord's Gift," Queen Anne's County, 779
 Nandua, 44
 — Creek, 34, 44
 Nanticoke, 49, 50, 52-56, 59, 1014, 1127, 1141
 — (Kuskarawoak) River, 12, 26, 48, 51, 53, 54
 — Indians, 48-52, 56, 63, 1127
 — Point, 406
 — River, 1014, 1017, 1022, 1096, 1125, 1127, 1139
 Nassawadox, 94, 96, 122, 123
 Nassawango, old bog iron furnace, 791
National Recorder, 598
 National Recovery Act, 679
 National Resources Planning Board, 20
 Naval armament, 168
 — stores, 288-289
 Navigation Acts, 289
 Neale, John, 81, 82
 Neck Meeting House, 688
 Negro Convention in Baltimore, 518
 — distribution table, 513
 — enlistment, 551-552, 549
 — property holders, 517
 — school, 523 (Illus.)
 — slaves, 85-92
 Negroes, 60, 564, 822, 828, 830, 832, 961
 Nelson, Earl, 232
 — Governor, 165
 — Henry, 763
 — Roland W. (R. Nels), 788, 790
 — Thomas, 173
 New Castle, Delaware, 60
 New Castle County, Delaware, 245
 Nesbitt, Mrs. Tracey, 827
 New Leeds, Cecil County, Church, 1043
 "New Market Blues," 399
 New Nithsdale, 1145
 New Spain, 7
 New Whitehall Creek, 54
 New Yarmouth, 925, 931, 937, 1056

- New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk Ferry Company, 593
 — Railroad, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 596, 599, 613
 New York Stamp Act Congress, 387
 New York University, 732
 Newcomb, William D., 764
 Newport, Christopher, Capt., 11
Newport Mercury, 439-440
 Newport News, 1
 Newspapers and Periodicals, 598, 599, 834, 835, 929, 932, 934, 936, 952, 961, 962, 963, 969, 979, 1005, 1023, 1050, 1091, 1092, 1105, 1109, 1111, 1113, 1116, 1117, 1125, 1130, 1144
 Nicholites, 110
 Nichols, Ed., 845
 — George, 173
 — John, 474
 Nicholson, Benjamin, 1064
 — Bill, 846, 849
 — Francis, Gov., 255, 256, 289, 290, 321, 352, 685, 700
 — James, 407, 408, 903, 919
 — John, 408, 919
 — Joseph, 904, 1064
 — Samuel, 408, 919
 — William H., Maj., 1063
 Nicol, John, 688
 Nicols, Robert Lloyd, 401
Niles Register, 449
 Nine Bridges, Caroline County, 1112
 — Church, 1101
 Nineteenth and Twentieth centuries, 561-628
 Ninth Virginia Regiment, 157, 160, 161
 Noble, Duncan, 1147
 — E. M., 812
 — Hollister, 793, 1024
 Nock, Nehemiah W., 598
 Non-exportation Act, 152
 Non-importation, 389, 390, 421
 Norfolk, 1, 11, 30, 34, 152, 153, 164, 177
 — sand, 35
Norfolk and Portsmouth Herald, 588
 Normal Department at Washington College, 733-4
 North, John C., 837
 North Carolina, 4, 7, 8
 North East, Cecil County, 1049, 1050
 — Church, 1045, 1046, 1050
 — River, 13
 North Point, 444
 North Sassafras Parish, 694
 Northampton-Accomack Memorial Hospital, 576, 618
 Northampton Act of 1766, 149
 — brig, 163
 — Committee, 150, 153, 156, 165, 166, 167
 — County, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 43, 73, 75, 76, 78, 82, 92, 94, 97, 101, 109, 110, 112, 114, 117, 121, 122, 124, 125, 129, 131, 132, 133, 134, 136, 149, 173, 174, 176-179
 — County Towns, 615-616
 — Court, 120
 — Court House, 177
 — Engagement, 76
 — Glebe, 566
Northampton Times, 598
 Northeast Poultry Producers Council, 867
 Norton, Andre (Alice Mary), 789
 — Howard M., 773
 Norwood, Henry, 44, 45, 1079
 Notaries Public, 644
 Notley, Thomas, 229
 Nottingham, John Henry, 611
 — Richard, 131
 — William, 130
 Nugent-Lyttleton deal of 1742, 332
 Nussawatx, Nussawattox, Nussawattocks, 44, 58
 Nutter, Christopher, 51, 59
 — John H., 746, 748-49, 751
 Nuttle plants, 1119 (Illus.)
 Oak Grove Sunday School, 572
 "Oak Lawn," Caroline County, 1121
 Oak Orchard, Delaware, 48
 Oats, 578, 579
 Occahannock, 118
 — Creek, 76
 — "House," 101, 113
 — Parish, 114
 — River Line, 587
 Occocomson Church (Assawaman Church), 119
 Occoquan, 6
 Ocean City, 29, 799, 842 (Illus.), 1087, 1088, 1089, 1091
 Ocean House, Ocean City, 799
 O'Connell, Pezavia, 753
 O'Connor, Herbert R., Gov., 768
 Octoraro Creek, 23
 Odber, John, Capt., 55
 Officers' fees, 269, 389-390
 Ogle, Samuel, Gov., 270, 295, 369-70
 Ogletown, 1058
 Ohio Oil Company, 29
 Ohoperoon or Ahoperoon (also called Opeter or Opetah), 52
 Okell, George, 337
 Old Bay Line, 588
 — Capital Prison, 920
 — Cecil Meeting, 779, 934
 — Chester Church, 1058
 — Courthouse and Debtors' Prison, Eastville, Virginia, 80 (Illus.)
 — Customs House, Chestertown, 281 (Illus.)
 — Drawbridge to Jersey Island, Crisfield, 301 (Illus.)
 — Furnace, Worcester County, 291 (Illus.)
 — Green Hill Episcopal Church, near Salisbury (Illus.), 687
 — *Ironsides*, 919
 — Line State, 18
 — "Man's Road, The," 245
 — Plantation, 117
 — Plantation Creek, 74, 79, 80, 93, 94, 118, 172
 — Quaker Meeting House in Talbot County, 807
 — "Rehobeth" or "Makemie's Church" in Somerset County, 784
 — "St. George's" or "Pungoteague" in Accomack County, 785
 — School Baptists, 813

- Third Haven Friends Meeting, 779, 780
- Town, 1036
- "Trinity" Church, 693, 779
- Wye Church, 693
- Oldham, Edward, 1042
- "Olney," Princess Anne, 266 (Illus.)
- used for Negro education, 744, 748, 750, 751
- Onancock, 33, 34, 44, 113, 114, 119, 122, 123, 132, 134, 177, 178
- Church Resolutions (1860), 569
- circuit, 568
- convention (1861), 569
- Creek, 34
- High School, 576
- Onancock Light & Power Company, 599
- Onancock Telephone Company, 597
- Onley, Margaret Anne, 177
- "Onley," Home on the River of Ex.-Gov. Henry A. Wise, 614 (Illus.)
- Opecanacanough, Powhatan's brother, 45
- Oppoquimimi River (Bohemia River), 241
- Order-in-Council, 1693, 317
- Ordinance of 1787, 429
- of Secession, 603, 604, 608
- Orem, Louise, 830, 831
- Origin of the County Names, 909-915
- Orphans Court, 642
- Orr, Miss Richelieu, vi
- Osiris*, 966
- Oursler, Fulton, 800, 815
- Overseers, 326
- Oxford, 17, 295, 296, 332, 380, 382, 441, 944, 948, 950-51, 966, 977, 982
- Church, 948, 982
- Oyster industry, Crisfield, 805
- Oysters, tonging, near Crisfield, 870 (Illus.)
- Ozinies, 14, 41, 57, 59
- Ozmont, Thomas, 492, 523
- Paca, William, 390, 392, 393, 394, 433, 434, 437, 458, 724, 725, 731, 904, 1059, 1062
- Page, Henry, 905, 1028
- I. Marshall, Rev., 804
- John, 163
- Paine, Thomas, 802, 803, 920
- Palmer House, 935
- Palmer's Island, 209, 1034
- Palmico Sound, 6
- Pamunkey Group, 23
- Panquas, 52, 53
- Pangoteag, 132, 134
- Panic of 1837, 473
- Paper Currency Act of 1733, 271
- Paper-money party of 1785-87, 434
- Parish of Hungars, 114, 115
- Parish of Nassawadox, 114
- Parker, Albert A., Dr., 833
- George, 125
- Henry, 584
- Peter, Sir, 919
- Severn Eyre, 565
- Walter J., 751
- Parkinson, Richard, 485-489
- Robert Lincoln, 795
- Parkis, Mrs. Mary Startt, 830
- Parks, William, 293, 306, 349
- Parksley, Accomack County, 32, 33
- Parksley Airport, 594
- Parliamentary Act of 1764, 385
- Parliamentary taxation, 385
- Parsonsbury, 26, 27, 1142
- Parsonsbury wells, 29
- Parrahockon, 51
- Parramore, Thomas, 150, 173
- Thomas, Capt., 161
- Parramore Island, 33
- Parrish, Anne, 792, 804
- Parrott's Point, 958
- "Parson of the Islands," 603
- Partridge shooting, 853-854
- Pastoria, 32
- Patapsco River, 13, 407
- Pattern of Negro-White relations, 745
- Pattison's, Mrs. M. A., School for Young Ladies, 968
- Patuxent Customs District, 332, 333
- Patuxent River, 14, 205, 336
- Paul, J. Gilman D'Arcy, 831
- Paul Jones*, 966
- "Paul Jones House," Wicomico County, 781
- Peabody, George, 475
- Peabody Institute of Baltimore, 577
- Peabody Institute Library, 821
- "Peace and Plenty," near Centreville, 1055
- Peace treaty signed by Great Britain and United States, 416
- Peake, Richard, Capt., 336
- Peale, Charles, 335, 701, 702
- Charles Willson, 298, 335, 904, 918
- St. George, 298
- "Pear Neck," Accomack County, 778
- Pearce, Henry Ward, Sr., 361
- James Alfred, 519, 545, 546, 728, 905, 921
- Polly, 361, 363
- Pedicord, Caleb, 689
- "Pemberton Hall," Wicomico County, 781, 1145
- Peninsula Enterprise*, 577, 598
- Peninsula General Hospital, Salisbury, 774, 1143
- Peninsula Railroad Company of Maryland, 589
- Peninsula Telephone Company, 597
- Penn, Hannah, 236
- William, 1013, 1096
- Pennsylvania Gazette*, 351
- Pennsylvania Grey-Hound Lines, 594
- Pennsylvania Railroad, 884, 1130
- Pennsylvania tribe, 59
- Perine, George, 811
- Perkins, George, 337
- Isaac, Capt., 404
- John, Judge, 578
- "Perry Hall Plantation," Talbot County, 784
- Perryville, 23, 1044, 1046, 1049, 1050
- Personages, 901-905
- Petition of 1706, 261
- Petition of 1767 by Acadians, 383
- Petroleum exploration, 27-29
- Pettit, Margaret, 177
- Phelps, J. P., Dr., 477

- Phi Beta Kappa, 125
 Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad, 592, 968
 Phillips, Branche H., 991
 — Edgar, 827
 — J. H., Rev., 576
 — Mrs. Walton, 827
 Phillips Packing Company, 1025, 1029 (Illus.)
 Physiographic and geologic description, 21-23
 Pianketank River, 12
 Picaroons, The, 1003
 Piedmont, 20, 23
 Pierpont, Governor, 608
 Pilgrim Holiness Church, 574, 1143
 Pillmore, 171
 Pilot boat, 162
 Pincke, Henry, 683
 Pioneer, 598
 Piper, Alexander, 813
 — Charles S., 577
 Pitcher, Paul T., vi
 Pitt, Robert, 81
 Pitts, Edward P., Judge, 563
 — Rott, 1132
 — William, 1142
 Pitts, Accomack County, 94
 Pitts Creek, 684, 685
 Pittsville, 27, 1142
 "Plain Dealing," Caroline County, 1121
 Plaindealing, The, 951
 Plantation of Accomack, 108, 115
 Planters, plantation life and organizations, 491-502
 Plaque Marking Birthplace of Stephen Decatur, Berlin, 238 (Illus.)
 Plater, George, 394, 434
 "Pleasant Valley," Talbot County, 783
 Pleasants, J. Hall, Dr., 361
 "Plymouth Greens," 399
 Pocahontas, 12
 Pocahontas Fuel Company yards and tanks, Salisbury, 1134 (Illus.)
 Pocatous or Poakaleyhouse, 53
 Pocomoke, 122, 684
 Pocomoke City, 515, 689, 690, 748, 750, 1085-1087, 1092
 Pocomoke City Band, 1086
 Pocomoke District, 94, 279
 Pocomoke Indians, 46, 47, 48, 51, 52
 Pocomoke Public Library, 833
 Pocomoke River, 5, 12, 29, 34, 46, 47, 48, 51, 59, 93, 98, 231, 232, 233, 992, 993, 1000, 1014, 1082, 1084
 Pocomoke River Line, 587
 Pocomoke Sound, 838
 Pocomoke Woman's Club, 833
 Poe, Edgar Allen, 793, 809
 Poet laureate, 807, 809, 811, 812
 Poetry, 808-814
 Point Comfort, 11, 104
 Political background, 73-79
 — developments, 227-230, 251-257, 265-267
 — issues, 1105, 1106, 1117
 Politics on Virginia Eastern Shore, 562-566
 Polk, Josiah, 459
 "Poplar Grove," 497
 Popley's Island, 227
 Popular Island, 958
 Population, 178, 257-259
 — Change, 661
 — Demographic basis of stability, 659-682
 — Distribution, 308-310, 681
 — Division, 668
 — Virginia Eastern Shore, 1800-1900, 561-562
 — Maryland Eastern Shore, 1870-1940, 662
 Port Deposit, 23, 730, 1047, 1049, 1050
 — Town Schools, 1047
 Port of Entry, Official, for Cecil, Kent and Queen Anne's counties, 331
 Porter, Richard Twilley, 847
 Portsmouth, 34, 35, 36, 105, 155, 158
 Pory, John, 42, 43, 74, 79, 101, 125
 Post offices, 596
 Postal Telegraph, 597
 Post-Revolutionary War problems, 429-438
 Potatoes, 578, 579, 586, 860
 Potomac Group, 23
 Potomac River, 2, 6, 9, 12, 13, 14, 105, 164, 166, 194, 322
 Pott, Francis, 82
 — John, Gov., 199
 Potter, J. Walter, 766
 — William, Gen., 1120
 — Zabdiel, 1120
 "Potter Hall," Caroline County, 1120
 Poulson, William, 136, 137
 Poultry, 581, 865-867, 1090
 Powell, Ruth F. C. ("Miss Ruth"), 761, 768
 — Samuel W., 608
 — Stewart K., Esq., 1147
 — Thomas, 1014
 Powellville, 1142
 Powers, Michael, Capt., 337
 Powhatan Indians, 12, 14, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 53
 Pratt, Thomas G., Gov., 475
 Pratt Phillips Cannery, Salisbury, 1140
 Pre-Columbian times, 39
 Prehistoric Indians, 64
 Prentice, George D., 809
 Presbyterian Church, Accomac, 91 (Illus.)
 Presbyterian Church, Princess Anne, 744
 Presbyterian organization in America, 123
 Presbyterians, 114, 574, 684, 691, 693, 803, 804, 1001, 1007, 1046, 1070, 1127, 1143
 Presidential Contest of 1860, 563
 Preston, Richard, 1014
 Preston, Caroline County, 1103, 1107, 1113, 1117
 — Church, 1113
 Prettyman Papers, 803
 Price, Jenkins, 45, 59, 94
 — Thomas, 121
 Prince George's Chapel, Selbyville, 694
 Princess Anne, Somerset County, 22, 176, 706, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 992, 997, 1005, 1006, 1125

- Academy, 745, 747
- College, 745, 1006
- County, 136
- Public Library, 830
- Principio Creek, 23
- Principio Furnace, Cecil County, 402 (Illus.)
- Principio Iron Works, 1049
- Pritchett, Harrington I., 764
- Private and public education, 699-721
 - Academy period, 705
 - Later Colonial period, 703
- Private schools, 576, 577
- Proclamation by General Dix, 606, 607
 - of 1637, 208
 - of 1638, 210
 - of Governor Hicks, 542
 - of Maryland Convention, 392
- Products and markets, 92-101
- Pro-English leaders, 52
- Prominent Eastern Shoremen in Public Life, 889, 907
- Proposal of Maryland and Virginia to French, 169
- Proposed sixteen laws, 224
- Proprietary land office, 316
- Proprietary manors, 430
- Proprietary Proclamation of 1733, 322
- Proprietary restoration, 265
- Prose, non-fictional, 802-808
- Protestant chapel built, 684
- Protestant dissenters, 121, 122
- Protestant Episcopal Church, 573-574, 726
- Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Easton, 688
- Providence, 1049
- Province, 55
- Provincial Convention, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395-396, 419
- Provincial library, Annapolis, 351
- Provisions every adventurer must carry, 195-197
- Provisions for Husbandry, 198
- Public dues, 432
- Public education, 575
- Public and Professional Relations Forum, 767
- Public School System in Maryland at present time, 712
- Public Schools, uniform system, 714
- Publicity Commission, 20
- Puckamee, 51
- Pugh, James A., 598
- Puncheon Method of Construction, 778
- Pungoteague, 43, 44, 94, 113, 114, 117, 174, 177
- Pungoteague Academy, 577
- Pungoteague Creek, 34, 102
- Pungoteague lynching, 562
- Purchase of land by counties, 430
- Pure Oil Company, 29
- Puritans, 684
- Purnell, E., 1081
 - Henrietta, 765
 - Matthew, 1081
 - Thomas, 1081, 1132
 - William, 1081
- Pye, Edward, 254
- Pyle, Howard, 805
- Quakers (Friends), 114, 120, 121, 122, 352, 416, 417, 512, 684, 688, 691, 793, 803, 934, 946, 949, 968, 970, 1000, 1070, 1102, 1110, 1113, 1127, 1145
- Quandanquam, 58
- Quantico, 1127, 1141
- Quary, Robert, 260
- Queen Anne's County, 21, 24, 25, 632, 828, 829, 861, 910, 924, 977, 1053-1075
 - Churches, 1053, 1058, 1064, 1065, 1069, 1070
 - Free Library, Centreville, vi, 822, 828, 829, 830
 - Homes, 1055, 1071
 - School Visitors, 701
 - Towns and Villages, 1054, 1056, 1057, 1058, 1063, 1064, 1065
- Queen Anne's Railroad Co., The, 1068
- Queen Anne's War, 109, 132, 136
- Queen Elizabeth, 10
- Queenstown, 24, 390, 407, 441, 443, 702, 1056, 1067
 - Library, 821, 834
- Queponco, 1090
- Queponqua, 47, 51
- Quinby, L. D. Teackle, 598
- Quitrent, 194, 228, 252, 254, 323, 324, 325, 326
- Racial relations, 179, 562
- Racing, 490
- Racing Canoes, 841, 843
- Radcliffe, George L., U. S. Sen., 476-77, 479, 804, 889, 891, 1026, 1029, 1089, 1147
 - George Marriott, 891
 - John Anthony L., 891
 - Mary McKim (Marriott), 891
 - Sophie D., 891
- Rademaker, Lee, 801
- Radoff, Morris, Dr., vi
- Rag-Time to Behop, 979-982
- Railroads (See under respective names), 589-93, 744, 882-84
- Rairigh, William N., 1095
- Raleigh, Sir Walter, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10
- Raleigh*, brig, 167
- Ramsey, Nathaniel, 904
- Randel, John, Jr., 1045
- Randolph, Edward, 99
 - John, 442
- Rappahannock River, 6, 12, 14, 105, 164, 166, 338
- Rasin, William I., Capt., 445, 920
- Rastall, John E., 1138
- "Ratcliffe Manor," Talbot County, 783
- Rathell, Joseph, 350
- Raynor, George A., Capt., 586
- Reading habits, 490
- Receiver General, Office of, 326
- Reconstruction Period, 1116
- Recruiting Song of 1754, 374-375
- Red Hill, 1035
- Red Star Line, 594
- Reed, John, Lt., 447
 - Philip, Lt. Col., 919, 921
 - Philip A., Col. 444, 445, 446
- "Reeds Creek," Queen Anne's County, 783
- Reform Convention, 473, 475

- Refuge for Roman Catholics, 191, 192
Regimental Flag, 598
 Register of Wills, office, 642
 Registration of Voters, 650
 Rehobeth (Rehoboth), 459 (Illus.), 684, 685, 693, 1007, 1027
 Reid, Charles W., Dr., 732, 733, 738
 Reids Grove, 26
 Religion, 566-75, 683-697
 Religion—a Necessity; Education—a Luxury, 946
 Religious Denominations (See under respective names), 793 et seq.
 Religious Toleration Act, 219-226, 684
 Removal of Government, 255
 Representative families, 360-366
 Representatives, United States Congress, 891-898
Reprisal, 804, 918
 "Resolves of Norfolk," 151
 "Reveal West House," Accomack County, 780
 Revell, Randall, 232, 1000
 Revolutionary Era, 73, 92, 114, 120, 125, 137, 952-55
 Revolutionary War, 399-409
 — Navy and privateering, 407-408
 — preparation and activity, 399-407
 "Reward," or "Walnut Point," Kent County, 780
 Reynolds, Elijah, 730
 — Olive, 825
 Rhodes, John, 1131
 Ribero, Diego, Map, 6
 Ricaud, James Barroll, 728, 731, 904
 Rich, Mrs. Charles, 828
 — Nathaniel B., Capt., 599
 Rich Neck Manor Chapel, 779
 Richardson, Buck, Capt., 837
 — Robert R., 568
 — William, Col., 406, 904, 1060, 1097, 1098
 Richie, Albert C., Gov., 679, 735
 Richmond, 2, 11, 177
 Richmond-Eastern Shore Ferry Company, 588
 Rickahake, 43
 Ridgely, 1113, 1116, 1117
 — Church, 1114
 — Community Library, 824
 Rieck, Harry H., 867
 Rind, William, 349
 Ringgold, James, Maj., 408, 937
 — Richard, 408
 — Richard Williamson, 730
 — Thomas, Col., 335, 337, 338, 339, 340, 351, 378, 387, 932
 — William, 335, 340
 Ringgold House, 334, 335, 736
 Rising Sun, 23, 1046, 1049
 Rivers, William J., Prof., 732
 Rivers, history, 806
Rivers of the Eastern Shore, Hulbert Footner, 333
 Roads and ferries, 127-133
 Roanoke Colony and Island, 4, 8, 10, 11
 Roberts, John, 523
 Roberts Industries, Salisbury, 852
 Robertson, John W., M.D., 1147
 — R. Harlow, 1147
 — Thomas B., 598
 Robins, John, 82, 97, 98
 — Obedience, (Col.), 74, 94, 104, 107, 113
 Robinson, Mrs. Ella P., 828
 — John M., Judge, 900, 905
 — Pere, 901
 — William, 121
 Robson, Joseph, Capt., 406
 — Thomas K., 478
 Rock Creek, 374
 — Hall, 424, 917, 921, 936, 1056
 — Hill, 24
 Rockawalking Creek, 1127, 1132
 Rodgers, John G., 598
 Rogers, Spencer F., 597, 598
 Rolle, John, Capt., 954
 Roman Catholic Church, 574, 686, 687, 691, 910, 947, 970, 1036, 1057, 1102, 1115, 1143
 Romance of 1774, A, 365
 Romancoke, 1054
 Ronald, William, 150
 Roosevelt, Franklin D., 936, 973, 1120
 — Theodore, 971
 Rosier, John, 116
 Ross, Samuel T., Judge, 563
 Rossetti, Dante Gabriel, 808
 Round Top Peach Farm, 1066
 Rousby Murder Case, 230
 Rousset, Henry, Dr., 1109
 Rowe, Mrs. Ethyl Howard, vi, 1147
 Rowlenson, J. H., 1067
 Rowles, James C., 598
 Roxburgh, Alexander, 1003, 1145
 Royal Americans, 378
 Royal Oak, Talbot County, 982
 Royal Period, 251-263
 Ruark, Elmer F., 1147
 Rudolph, Zebulon, 811
 Rudulph, John, 1041
 — Michael, 1041
 — Tobias, 1042, 1049
 Rumsey, Benjamin, 904
 — Charles, Col., 1041
 — James, 904, 1042
 Rural Electrification Administration, 600
 Rural Free Delivery, 596
 Russell, George W., 615
 — Louise B., 740
 — Walter, 12
 Sadler, Emory, 341
 Sailing Craft, 583
 St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Princess Anne, 692 (Illus.), 693
 St. Augustine, 7
 — Great House Plantation, 1043
 — Manor, 243
 St. Clair, Sir John, 376
 St. Francis Xavier's Church, 692
 St. George's Church and Parish, 103, 115, 120, 123, 155, 573, 574
 St. Helen, 1003
 St. James Episcopal Church, Accomack Court House, 111 (Illus.)
 St. John's College, 431, 712, 727
 St. Luke's, Wye Mills, 693, 785
 St. Margaret, 1003
 St. Mark's Church, 693

- St. Martin, 27
 St. Martin's Church, Worcester Parish, 417, 693, 784
 St. Martin's Oil and Gas Company, 7, 29
 St. Mary's, 2, 27, 212, 241, 1014
 St. Mary's—Star of the Sea, 686
 St. Mary's Church, 693
 St. Mary's County, 26
 St. Mary's River, 14
 St. Mary Ann's Protestant Episcopal Church, North East, 1045 (Illus.)
 St. Michaels, 363, 443, 947, 956, 957, 961, 965, 966, 977, 982
 — "Comet," 969, 979
 — Female Academy, 968
 — Male Academy, 968
 — Parish, Talbot County, 418, 421, 694
 — River, 957
 St. Paul's Church and Parish, Kent County, 356 (Illus.), 449, 693, 694, 785, 918
 St. Paul's Parish, Talbot County, 694
 St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church, Berlin, 694 (Illus.)
 St. Peter's Church and Parish, Talbot County, 345, 346, 694
 St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Salisbury, 1128 (Illus.)
 St. Stephen's Church and Parish, 363, 692
 Salisbury, 29, 636 (Illus.), 660, 664, 759, 821, 833, 835, 998, 1005, 1127, 1131, 1137, 1145
 Salisbury Academy, 1130
 Salt, 295, 582
 Salt House, 101
 Salter, John, 1057
 Salvation Army, 694
 San Juan Island, 8
 "San Miguel de Gualdape," 6
 Sandburg, Carl, 815
 Sandford, Samuel, 124
 Sandy Island, 583
 Sangston, John T., 543
 Santa Elena, 9
 Sassafras, 34, 57
 — loam, 35
 Sassafras River, 13, 14, 23, 57, 60, 442, 789-90, 934, 936, 1037, 1039
 Saunders, Roger, 107
 Savage, Edward, Capt., 1014
 — George B., Capt., 598
 — Griffith, 81
 — John, 84, 89, 124, 136, 137
 — Littleton, 179
 — Nathaniel Littleton, 85, 150, 163
 — Thomas, 59, 74, 79, 81, 92, 104, 125, 180
 — Thomas Littleton, 176, 179
 Savage, N. L., & Co., 167
 Savage's Neck, 32, 74, 79
 Savage's Neck Road, 130
 Savageville, 32
 Scarborough, Edmund, Col., 232
 — John, 1078
 — Katherine, 17, 335, 807
 Scarborough, Charles, 78, 79, 81-83, 107, 125
 — Edmund, 47-48, 74-76, 81, 88, 89, 93, 95-97, 101-02, 105, 107, 109, 113, 117, 121-22, 129
 — George P., Judge, 568
 — Henry, 85
 Scarborough's Neck, 74, 102
Scarlet Letter, 797
 Schenck, Robert C., Gen., 548, 549, 551
 Schley, James M., 474
 Schoolfield, John B., 598
 — Mrs. William H., 833
 Schools, attendance, 716
 — County Free, Act of 1696, 700
 — County Superintendent, 645, 716
 — and Libraries, 123-127
 — local, 701, 723, 935, 968, 978, 1006, 1069, 1115, 1120
 — State Superintendent, 645, 716
 Schuyler, Betsy, 423
 — General, 425
 — W. R., 837
 Scisco, Louis Dow, 7, 9
 Scotch-Irish Settlers in Cecil County, 1047
 Scott, Benjamin F., Capt., 611
 — David, 811
 — Edward, Capt., 337-38
 — John, 1078
 — John, Rev., 411-12
 — Thomas, 832
 — Thomas A., Col., 590
 — Thomas M., 598
 — Walter, Sir, 795
 — William L., 615
 Scott, Dred, decision, 541
 Scovell, Gen., 210, 211
 Seaboard Air Line at Portsmouth, 590
 Seafood, 582-583, 870-875
 Seager, John, Capt., 337
 Second World War, 613
 Secondary Schools by counties, 703
 "Secretary Sewall's Creeke," 55
 Secretary's Creek, 54
 Secretary's Land, 177
 Segar, Joseph E., 565
 Segura, Father, 6
 Selby, John, 801
 Sellers, Francis, Esq., 1121
 Semmes, Raphael, 454, 808
 Seneca, 55
 Seney, John, 395, 1059
 — Joshua, 726, 904, 1059, 1064
 Senhouse, Andrew, 336
 Separatist movements, 469, 470, 476-77, 479-482
Serapis, 919
 Servants and slaves, 198
 Seth, Joseph B., 807, 821, 822, 834
 — Mary W., 807
 Settlement, first north of Potomac, 200
 Seventh Day Adventists, 694, 1070
 Severn, 2
 Sewall, Henry, 1027
 — Nicholas, Maj., 1027
 Sewall's Manor, 1027
 Sewell, Clement, 395
 Seymour, John, Gov., 256, 259, 260, 284-85, 319
 Shannahan, John H. K., Jr., 806-807, 818
 — Sam, 979
 Sharpe, Horatio, Gov., 53, 295, 309, 315, 324-25, 332, 334, 338, 356, 373-380, 385-86, 389, 416, 430
 — John, 268
 — Peter, 1014
 Sharpe's Island, 443, 497, 958, 959

- Sharples, Joshua T., 597
 Sharptown, 1133, 1141
 Shawnee and Delaware Indians, 57, 58
 Shea, John G., 6
 Sheep, 490, 496, 497, 1066
 Shell Oil Company, 29
 Sherer's, W., Boarding School for Young Ladies, 968
 Shields, D., 799
 Ship, auctions at Chestertown, 336
 Ships, of Chestertown, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340
 — definition of, 292-93
 Ship's Point, 951
 Shipbuilding, 292-293
 Shippen Creek Farmhouse, 1069
 Shirley, William, 377, 378
 "Shirley," Hack's Neck, Accomack County, 151 (illus.)
 Shockley, Benjamin, 419
 Showell, Lemuel, Col., 1130
 Showell, 693, 1090
 Shrewsbury Parish, 693
 Shrewsbury Town, 937
 Simcoe's *Journal*, 154
 Simpson, Southy, 150, 156, 415
 Sims, Clifford, 579, 580
 Singleton, John, 485, 486, 487, 489
 Six Nations, 49, 56
 Sixpence, Henry, 56
 Skinner, John S., 495
 Skirven, Percy G., 444-49, 804, 807
 — William, Ensign, 447-48
 Slave, Most Famous, 534-535
 Slaves and Slavery, 435-36, 490-91, 511, 520-528, 529-533, 535, 551, 792, 949, 961, 1004, 1104
 Slaybaugh, J. Paul, Dr., vi, 699, 703, 709, 711, 1147
 — Mrs. J. Paul, 711
 Sluyter, Peter, 247
 Slye, Gov., 289
 Smallwood, William, 403-04, 406, 415, 417, 437, 904, 921, 1137
 Smith, Charles, Col., 604
 — Henry, 1078
 — Isaac, 150, 700
 — John, Capt., 4, 11-14, 41-43, 47-50, 53-4, 56-7, 59, 73, 74, 92-3, 126, 194, 231, 802, 924, 1000, 1029, 1033, 1040, 1053, 1126
 — John M., 825
 — John Sylvester, Dr., 683
 — John W., 905
 — Robert, 945
 — Thomas, 168, 205-07, 209-10, 567
 — Thomas Perrin, 969
 — William, 357, 418, 429, 688, 701, 723, 725-26, 729, 731, 936, 1028, 1029
 Smith's Island, 11, 43, 82, 109, 136, 994
 Smith's Point, 231, 232
 Smyth, John, Col., 332
 — Thomas, 335, 341, 404, 418
 Smoot, Homer, 845
 Snead, Lewis, L., 584
 — Thomas, 161
 Snow Hill, 128, 133, 177, 684, 685, 693, 702, 784, 799, 1005, 1079-80, 1082-85, 1090, 1125
 — *Messenger*, 531
 — Parish, Somerset County, 694
 — Public Library, 833
 Social Habits of Marylanders, 358-360
 — homogeneity of Maryland's governing class, 436
 — Life, Eighteenth Century, 345-368
 Society for Promotion of Agriculture and Rural Economy, 963
 "Society for Reformation of Manners and Punishment of Vice Prophaness and Immorality," 355
 Socony-Vacuum Oil Company, 29
 Soils, 34-36
 Somers, Samuel, Capt., 1147
 Somerset County, 21, 26, 27, 29, 47, 51, 58, 121, 124, 176, 231, 272, 322, 632, 830, 861, 912, 996, 1005, 1007-08
 — School Visitors, 702
 — Topography, 992-995
 Somerset Parish, Somerset County, 694
 Somervell, David L., 764
 Sons of Liberty, Frederick County, 387, 388
 South Mountain, 378
 South Quay, 105
 — Shipyard, 168
 Southern Rights Convention of Maryland, 542
 Southern Slaveholders Insurance Company of Maryland, 520
 Spain, 6-9, 11
 Spanish American War (1898), 612
 Spanish archives, 5
 — conquistadores, 4
 — map, 2, 4
 Spanish West Indies Campaign, 1740, 369
 Speakers of the House of Delegates, 900-901
 Spelman, Sir Harry, 14
 Spence, John Selby, 904
 Spencer, John B., 1067
 — Nicholas, 108
 — Perry, 958
 — S. W., 543
 — Thomas, Capt., 340
 Spesutie Island, 1034, 1035
 Sports and Related Activities, 845-855
 Spotswood, Alexander, Gov., 104, 108
 Stamp Act, 385-389
 — Congress, 149
 Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, 29
 Stapleford, Raymond, 1014
Star Spangled Banner, 444
 Starr, Ida M. H., 808
 State Aid to Education, 712, 755
 — Aid to Health Institutions, 774
 — Board of Health, 771-72
 — certification of teachers, 716
 — Committee of Safety, 153
 — Convention at Annapolis, 434
 — Equalization Fund, 716-17
 — Ferry, 977
 — Food and Drug Commission, 773
 — Government, creation in Maryland, 394-396
 — of Maryland in Liberia, 517
 — Minimum program, 717
 — Normal System, 715
 — Planning Commission, 769
 — Roads Commission, 635

- Senate, Eastern Shore Presidents, 900
- Tax Commission, 635
- Teachers Retirement System, 716, 832
- University, 727
- State's Attorney, 639
- Stavely, Margaret, 814
- Steamboat development, 480
- service, 584-89
- Steamboating, 884, 885
- Steiner, Bernard C. (Dr.), 227, 485, 546, 683, 826-827
- Stephens House, 933
- Stepney Parish, Somerset County, 694
- Sterling, J. E. N., 598
- James, Rev., 332, 334, 355, 356, 934
- Robert, Lieut., 377
- Stevens, John, 700
- Samuel, Jr., Gov., 904
- William, 51, 904, 1001, 1002, 1014, 1089
- Stevens' Ferry, 1085
- Stevensville, 1054, 1056
- Steward, Charles, 334
- Stewart, Alexander, Capt., 1146
- Anthony, 415
- Elizabeth, 827
- Frances E., 827
- Still Pond Meeting House, 779
- Stillington, Thomas, 1014
- Stimpson, Herbert B., 789
- Stoakes, James, 958
- Stockton, Thomas H., Rev., 810
- Stockton, 1090
- Stone, Irving, 793
- Thomas, 392, 1014
- William, 81, 108, 220
- William Murray, 731, 904
- Stott, Jonathan, 131
- Stratton, John, 166, 565
- Strawberries, 580, 586
- Strickland, Grace, 766
- Stringfellow, Martin, Capt., 593
- Sturgis, Upshur, 599
- Sudlersville, 1065
- Sudlersville Memorial Library, 822, 828, 829, 834
- Sue*, 1086
- Suffolk, 158, 168
- Suffrage, 395
- Sugar Act, 385
- Sulivane, Clement, Col., 1023
- James, Maj., 1027
- Sullivan, Samuel, 1067
- Sunday observance, 347-348
- Surprise*, 966
- Susquehanna, 14
- Indians, 14, 52
- River, 13, 21, 23, 57, 322
- Susquehannock, 57, 59, 208
- Sussex County, Delaware, 26
- Swain, Robert L., Jr., 1, 331, 909, 917
- Swamp draining, 178
- Swan Point, 444
- Swan's Creek, 936
- Swann, Thomas (Gov.), 462, 553
- Swanson, Neil H., 789
- Swartz, Mano, 827
- Swedish and Dutch traders, 57
- Swift, Hildegard H., 793
- Talbot, George, 234
- Grace, 944
- Robert, Sir, 944
- Talbot County, 22, 25, 29, 59, 174, 296, 324, 830-32, 861, 910, 943-89
- Cattle Show and Fair, 969, 970
- Churches, 947, 982
- Customs and legends, 806, 807
- Economy today, 974-76
- Free Library, Easton, vi, 788, 822, 823, 830, 831, 832, 834
- Local histories, 808
- Repels invasion, 957-59
- School Visitors, 702, 724
- Towns and Villages, 944, 947, 951, 957, 966, 972, 977, 982
- Talbot Court House, now Easton, 458, 459, 945
- Tales of Old Maryland*, John H. K. Shannahan, Jr., 806-807
- Taney, Roger B., Chief Justice, 541
- Tangier Island(s), 2, 33, 154, 164, 165, 615, 1003
- Shoals, 424
- and Smith islands, 2
- Sound, 20, 231, 415, 992
- and Watts islands, 600
- Tants Wighcocomoco or Little Wighcocomoco, 46
- Tarr, Charles, 841
- Tasker, Benjamin, Jr., 374
- Taxation, System of, 173
- Taxes, 179, 717
- Taylor, Frances L., 1147
- Philip, 75
- Thomas, 729
- Taylor's Island, 406, 1020, 1021, 1029
- Tazewell, Ella W. and Sally, 591
- Tea duty, opposition to, 341
- Teackle, Littleton D., 531, 532
- Thomas, Rev., 116, 120, 123, 125, 136
- Teackle Mansion, Princess Anne, 348, 744 (Illus.)
- Telegraph, 596-597
- Telephone, 597
- Tench, Thomas, 256
- Tennant, Mrs. Richard, 832
- Tenure of land, 79-85
- for teachers, 716
- Tequissino, 54, 55
- Territory ceded, 429
- Tevis, C. C., Col., 548
- Thackeray, William Makepiece, 790
- Third bid for separation, 471, 472
- "Third Haven," 688
- Third Provincial Convention, 391
- Thirty-ninth (39th) Virginia Volunteers, 610
- Thom, De Courcy W., 803, 828
- Thomas, Ida Belle Wilson, Dr., 759, 762,
- Joshua, 567, 601, 691, 790, 803, 813, 814, 904, 998, 1007
- Nicholas, 954
- Philip, 905, 1047
- Thompson, Augustine, 1069
- Frank du Pont, 825
- John, 1060, 1067
- Richard, 1054
- Willard, 1142
- Thompsonsontown, 1035

- Thomson, Richard, 211
 — Francis duPont, 1147
 Thorne, William, 1001, 1002
 Thornton, John, Rev., 359
 "Thornton House," Accomack County, 784
 "Three Bohemia Sisters, The," 243
 Thurston, Lucy Meacham, 789
 — Walter C., 807, 812
 Tidewater, Virginia, 4, 12, 41
 Tidewater Fisheries Department, 872, 873
 Tiffany, Mrs. Evelyn Bayly, 577-578
 — Louis McLane, Dr., 578
 Tilghman family, 360-66, 751
 Tilghman, Anna Maria, 424
 — Edward, 324, 325, 378, 387, 389, 1059, 1060
 — Henrietta Marie, 360
 — James, 360, 426, 1059
 — Lloyd, 361
 — Mary, 360, 363
 — Matthew, 326, 381, 389, 390, 393, 394, 455, 458, 904, 953-55
 — Oswald, 804, 808
 — Peregrine, Col., 363
 — Richard, 379, 380, 1069
 — Samuel, 944
 — Tench, 360, 421-428, 494, 495, 496, 804, 904, 921, 955, 963
 — Thomas Ringgold, 426
 — William, 390, 904
 Tilghman, Talbot County, 972, 982
 Tilghman Island, 958, 977, 981
 Tilghman letters, 360-366
 Tilghman Packing Co., 874
 Tillman, Mrs. Harry, 827
 Titsworth, Paul E., Dr., 735, 736
Toast of Maryland, 790
 Tobacco, 270, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 295, 297, 298, 299, 300, 307, 309, 310, 496, 578, 579
 — currency, 272, 273
 — economy, 270
 — inspection, 297
 — James River, 178
 — Law of 1707, 285, 287
 — trade, 251, 336
 Tockwagh River, 14
 Tockwagh and Ozinies, 41, 56, 57
 Todd, Robert W., 803
 Toft, Ann, 81, 82, 85
 Tolchester, 928, 936
 — ferry, 936
 Toleration Act, 112, 122, 223
 Tollett, John, 354
 Tome, Jacob, 1047
 — Institute, 1047
 — Mansion, 1047
 — School for Boys, 1047
 Tompkins, Bennet, 173
 Tooker, William Wallace, 2, 4, 14, 15
 Topping, Nathaniel, 584
 Torrence, Clayton, 808, 1001
 Touchton, Fred H., 837
 Tourist facilities, 620
 Tournaments, Annual, 795, 798
 Town development, 178
 Town Point, 1035
 "Towne, The," 777
 Townsend, George Alfred, 788, 790, 794, 796, 806, 810, 815, 1004, 1008, 1021, 1085
 — John, 59
 Townsend Acts, 388, 389
 Townshend, William Bartlett, 413
 Townshend Acts of 1767, 149
 Trade, Indians, 199
 — schools, 87
 Trader, Lila Gossage, 814
 Trading concerns, 296
 Transportation, 177-178, 301-308, 583-595, 877-887, 936
 Transquakine, 54
 Transquaking Company, The, 399
 Trappe, Talbot County, 945, 947, 966, 972, 982
 Trash tobacco, 271
 Trautman, George, 849
 Traver, William, Capt., 406
 Travis, Severn B., 615
 — W. T., 590
 Tread Haven Creek, 945
 Treasurers, 901
 Treaties, 48, 379, 600
 Tred Avon, 951
 — Yacht Club, 981
Tred Avon, 967
 Trent, Col., 373, 374
Trial, 967
 Trimper, Daniel, 1088
 Trippe, Edward, 904
 — Henry, 298
 — Sarah, 298
 Trippe's Creek, 946
 Triumph Industries, Inc., 1048
 Troops, by Counties, 370-372
 "Troth's Fortune," Easton, Talbot County, 978 (Illus.)
 Truck Farming, 963-965
 Truitt, Charles J., 670, 808, 1125
 — Charles, Jr., 1125
 — Elizabeth G., 1125
 — Jacqueline, 1125
 Truman, Harry S., President, 936
 Trumbull, J. Hammond, 2, 4
 Trustees (district), 646
 Tubbs, E. T., 812
 — H. K., 1116
 Tubman, Harriet, 792, 793, 804, 1026
 Tuck, William H., 475
 Tuckahoe, 947
 — Bridge Church, 1101
 — Creek, 25
 — Neck, 688
 — River, 1095
 Tuition fees, State Teachers College, 718
 Tull, Mrs. Gilbert, 825
 Tundotenake, 51
 Tunnis Mills, 982
 Turbutt, William, 1069
 Turlington's Camp Ground, 567
 Turnbull, Jonathan, Jr., 425
 Turner, Nat, 962
 — Richard Townsend, Sr., 779
 Turner Creek, 14
 Turpin, Waters Edward, 800, 815
 Twiford, Robert, 177
 Tyaskin, 1141
 Tydings, Millard, Sen., 1120

- Tyler, Boley, Capt., 837
 — G(eorge) C. (Dr.), 569, 570, 572
 Types of early schools, 699

 U.S.S. *Constellation*, 919
 Underground Railroad, 1004
 Underhill, Thomas, 584
 Underwood, Sophie Kerr (see Kerr, Sophie), 1147
 Underwood constitution, 1868, 575
 Unincorporated Academies, 708
 Union Academy, 706
 — Hospital of Cecil County, 774
 — -Emancipation Party, 549
 — League Convention, 548
 Unionists, conservative, 547
 — unconditional, 547, 548, 549
 Unionists and State Righters, last trial, 1861, 546
 United States Census (1880), 841
 — Census of Agriculture, 857, 859, 860, 861, 863, 864
 — Geological Survey, 33
 — Highway Number Thirteen, 595
 — Naval Academy, 2
 — Senate, members, 889-891
United States (ship), 1044
 Universalists, 574
 University of Maryland, 431, 1006
 — Extension Service, 862
 University of Pennsylvania, 1028
 University of Virginia, 577
 Unnacokasimmon, first Nanticoke Em-
 peror, 52
 Unusual Epitaph, 618
 Upper Bay Counties, 20
 — Chesapeake region, 20
 — and Lower Parish, 114
 — Parish, 118
 — Parish of Northampton County, 117
 Upshur, Abel Parker, 563, 565, 611
 — George Parker, 611
 — Littleton, Jr., 562, 563
 "Useful Indian Path," 60
 Usilton, Fred (G.), 808, 1147
 — Mrs. William B., III, 935
 Usselson, Capt., 447
 Utie, Nicholas, Col., 233, 234, 241
 Utilities, 599-600

 Vallandigham, Edward Noble, 480, 805
 Valley Forge, 423
 Valtin, Jan (Richard Krebs), 801
 Vanderbogart, Jackson (see McAlpin, John)
 Vanderford, Henry, 811, 1067
 Vantrack, John, 1001
 "Vaucluse," Northampton County, 171 (Illus.)
 Vaughan, Robert, 928, 1054
 Vaughn, Ernest A., 855
 Vaux, Henry, 121
 Veasey, John, Col., 1041
 — William F., Capt., 585
 Veazey, Edward, Capt., 1060
 — Thomas Ward, Gov., 731, 904
 Verraz(z)ano, Giovanni da, 5, 6, 999
 Vespucci, Amerigo, 5
 Vegetables (see Crops), 578, 579, 580, 581, 586

 Vestry Act, 687
 Vickers, Clement, Capt., 958, 959
 — George (Gen.), 544, 921
 Vienna, Dorchester County, 51, 1016, 1017
 — Public Library, 827
Village Herald, Princess Anne, 529
 Vinnacokassin, 1127
 Virginia, 20, 73-188, 561-630
 — *Almanac*, 167
 — Assembly, 118
 — Capes, 18, 30
 — Coast, 9
 — Company of London, 74, 83, 118
 — Convention, 152, 156, 157, 160, 166
 — Counties, 47, 60, 561-630
 — Ferry Corp., 593, 594
 — *Gazette*, 134, 150, 152, 349
 — Patent, 81
 — Truck Equipment Station, 582
 Visitors, school, 701, 702, 724, 747
 Vocational rehabilitation, 716
 Volunteer troop of horse, 161
Voyage of Discovery and Exploration, Richard Hakluyt, 5

 Wachapreague, 32, 34
 Waddelow, Nicholas, 121
 Wages, 516
 Wagram Mill Pond, 33
 Wailes, Mrs. H. S., 833
 — Victoria, 833
 Walcope, Thomas, 336
 Walker, Mrs. Caroline Burnite, 830, 831
 — Mannix, 801
 — Thomas, 1078
 Wallace, Adam, 790, 803
 — David H., 872, 874
 — James, Col., 554, 1023
 — Lewis, Maj. Gen., 552
 Walbridge, Carl H., 615
 Wallis, Eleanor Glenn, 814
 — Hugh, 332
 Wallops Island, 159
 "Walnut Grove," Queen Anne's County, 780
 Walton, William, 82
 Walworth, H. R., 826, 827
 War, Between the States (Civil, of Seces-
 sion), 451, 539-557, 603-613, 841, 919, 920, 956, 962, 995, 1004, 1022, 1025, 1026, 1064, 1107, 1117, 1125, 1137
 — French and Indian, 919, 946
 — King William's, 945
 — Mexican, 451
 — Queen Anne's, 945
 — Revolutionary, 149-185, 385-428, 918, 919, 953, 1003, 1017, 1018, 1040, 1049, 1056, 1058, 1070, 1080, 1098, 1101, 1106, 1112, 1132
 — Spanish-American, 612
 — World I, 612-13, 1117, 1139
 — World II, 613, 955, 973, 1025, 1045, 1048, 1120, 1139, 1144
 — of 1812, 442-451, 600-603, 789, 919, 920, 956, 957, 1021, 1039, 1062, 1064, 1100
 War Food Administration, "A"(chieve-
 ment) Award, 874
 War Without Tears, Talbot County, 961-963

- Warren, Benjamin Clark, Rev., 795
 — Patrick, Rev., 572
 — Ratcliffe, Lt., 205
 Warrosquyoake, 106
 Wars (see under respective designations)
 — Intercolonial, 369-384
 — Panics, and Politics, 971-974
 Warship defense, 407
 Warwick, Cecil County, 692
Warwick, Journal of a Voyage in the Ship, 93
 Warwicke River, 106
 Washington, George, 84, 127, 137, 422-28, 441, 724, 725, 804, 918, 920, 921, 932, 1020
 Washington Academy, 176, 177, 706, 750
 Washington College, 1, 357, 362, 418, 431, 688, 703, 706, 712, 723-741, 732, 905, 918, 921, 933, 935, 948
 — Builder of, 334
 — Fire of 1827, 729-730
 — History, 723-741
 — Library, Chestertown, 788, 821, 828
 — Presidents of, 740
 — Rebuilding of 1844-45, 730
 — in World War II, 738
 Washington County Library, Hagerstown, 821
 Washington, George, Hotel, Ocean City, 744, 1088
 Waters, Francis, 727, 728
 — Joseph R., 745, 748, 749, 751
 Watkins Point, 121, 192, 194, 231, 232, 233
 Watson, Arthur, Dr., 603
 — George, 109
 — Gillett F., Dr., 608
 — Harry, Dr., 829
 Watts Island, 33
 Wattsville, 34
 Wayde's Point, 959
 Webb, Mrs. Allan, 827
 — Virginia, 1013
 — P. Watson, 1147
 Webster, Mrs. Charles, 829
 — Edwin Hanson, 545, 546, 547
 Weedon, Gen., 163
 Welby, Amelia Ball Coppuck, 796, 809, 811
 Werowans, 42
 Weslager, C. A., 39
 Wesleyan University, 732
 West, Evelyn, 801
 — John, 83, 102, 136
 — John, Capt., 107
 — John, Col., 104, 125
 — John, Gov., 206
 — John, Lieut. Col., 75, 122
 West Nottingham, 1047
 — Academy, 706, 710, 712, 1046
 — Presbyterian Church, 710
 Westcott, Mrs. Nell C., 1147
 Westerly Runnagados, 43
 Western Shore of Maryland and Virginia, 13, 21, 42, 783
 Western Tidewater Virginia, 20
 Western Union, 596, 597
 Westmoreland, 227
 Westover strawberry production, 805
 Wetipquin, 1141
 Whaland, Joseph, 1003
 Whaley, Commodore, 164
 — Seth, Capt., 1090
 Whaleysville, 1090
 Wharton, Edith, 815
 — John, 180
 Whatcoat, Richard, Bishop, 174, 804
 Wheat, 486, 489, 496, 497
 Wheatley, Capt., 406
 Wheatley, Phyllis, Public Library, Centreville, 822, 828
 Whealton, John B., Capt., 595
 Whealton, John B., Memorial Highway, 595
 Wheeler, C. C., Capt., 905, 967
 — Joseph T., 351
 Whig Party, 541
 Whipping post, 1057
 "Whispering Pines," 621-622
 Whitaker, Miss Mattie R., 740
 White, Mrs. Albert, 824
 — Ambrose, 113
 — Andrew, 683
 — Father, 194
 — Frank J., Col., 569, 570, 573, 609, 610, 612
 — Henry, 120
 — John, 4, 10, 1132
 — Leslie Turner, 788
 — Robert, 53
 — S. King, 833, 1147
 — Mrs. S. King, 833
 — Samuel C., 584
 — Thomas, 1097
 — William A., Rev., 811
 "White Hall," Talbot County, 778, 780
 White Haven, 1141
 White Marsh Farm, near Bethlehem, Caroline County, 1110
 White population, by counties, 514
 Whitelock, Elisha E., 531
 Whitmarsh Church, 380, 457
 — Parish, Talbot County, 418
 Whittingham, William R., Bishop, 731
 Whittington, William, 95, 124
 Whitty, Richard, 1078
 Wiccocomoco, Somerset County, 51
 — River, 51
 Wiccomiss, 1, 59, 60
 Wickamiss Indians, 55
 Wickes, Joseph, 930, 932
 — Lambert, Capt., 337, 340, 408, 446, 447, 804, 904, 918, 930
 — Richard, 408, 918, 919
 "Wickwire," Cecil County, 783
 Wicomico, formation, 24, 25, 26, 27
 — origin of name, 1126
 — plain, 24, 26
 — terrace, 26
 Wicomico County, 22, 26, 29, 37, 632, 832-833, 862, 912, 1078, 1125-1147
 — Churches, 1127, 1129, 1135, 1145
 — Formation, 1125
 — Points of interest, 1145, 1146, 1147
 — and Salisbury today, 1142-1144
 — Towns and Villages, 821, 1127, 1129, 1131, 1133, 1137, 1138, 1139-1142
 Wicomico Free Public Library, 824, 832, 833, 835
 Wicomico Gas and Oil Company, 27
 Wicomico Motor Company display at night, Salisbury, 1136 (Illus.)

- Wicomico and Pocomoke Railroad, 883,
 1129, 1142
 Wicomico River, 26, 992, 1005, 1131, 1133,
 1139, 1145, 1147
 "Widehall," Chestertown, 335, 339 (Illus.),
 784, 935 (Illus.)
 Widgeon, George W., 615
 Wighco (Wighcomoco) River, 93, 232
 Wighcocomoco, 41, 46-48, 49, 59, 206
 Wilcocks, John, Capt., 74, 104
 Wilkenson, Christopher, Rev., 1069
 Wilkinson, Burton M., 1147
 Willards, Wicomico County, 1142
 William and Mary College, 125, 256
 Williams, Henry, 80
 — J. O., 850
 — Robert, 170, 171
 — Roger, 246
 — Rowland, 50
 — Thomas H., Dr., 1023
 — William, 80
 Williams, Inspector-General, visit to Ches-
 tertown, 1769 or 1770, 333, 334
 Williamsburg, 2, 116, 169
 Williamson, Anne, 363
 — David, 81
 — Robert, Rev., 572
 Willing, Thomas, 364
 Willis, J. S., 794
 — John Arthur, Col., 1120
 — William B., 474
 Williston, 1108, 1112-1113, 1120
 Wills Creek, 374, 375
 Willson, Minnie T., 740
 Wilmer, James Jones, 905
 — William Holland, Rev., 732, 905
 Wilson, Anne Marshall, 766
 — Bob, 837
 — Ephraim King, 905
 — Hermon F., Dr., 744
 — John A. B., Rev., 615, 745, 749
 — Robert, Dr., 805
 — Robert, Rev., 480
 — Samuel, 387
 — Thomas, Rev., 903
 — William B., 598
 — Woodrow, 808
Wilson Small, 1134
 Wilstach, Paul, 805, 815
 Wimbrow, Dale, 813
 Winchester, John, 227
 Winder, John, 1078, 1132
 — Levin, Gov., 904, 1062
 — William, 904, 1131
 Windmill, Federalsburg, 1097 (Illus.)
 "Winona," Northampton County, 785
 Wise, Barton H., 562, 564
 — Henry A., 562, 563, 565, 567, 576, 612
 — Jennings Cropper, 44
 — John, 107
 — John, Maj., 562
Wise, Life of Henry A., 562
 Wolfe, Thomas, 791
 Wolstenholme, Daniel, 387
 Woman's Club of Federalsburg, 824-825
 — of Pocomoke City, 888
 — of St. Michaels, 822, 830, 832
 Women's Club, Cambridge, 826, 1028
 Women's Literary Club, Chestertown, 827
 Wood, William, 194
 Wood and timber, 582
 Woodall, John, 300
 Woodcock, Amos, W. W., Gen., 805, 1147;
 Vol. III, 1
 — Elizabeth W., 805
 Woodford, Mrs. Margaret, 829
 Woolford, Stephen, Capt., 406
 Woolford's, 1020
 Worcester County, 5, 21, 22, 26, 27, 29, 37,
 47, 235, 237, 322, 324, 632, 702, 825,
 833, 862, 1005, 1077-1094, 1136
 — Churches, 814, 1083, 1089, 1090
 — Libraries, 833
 — Prominent homes, 1084, 1085, 1087,
 1089
 — School Visitors, 702
 — Towns, 1079, 1080, 1082, 1085, 1087,
 1089, 1090
 Wordsworth, William, 812
 Works Progress Administration, 806, 819,
 833
 Worrall, Thomas, 729
 Worrell, Betsy, 362
 "Worst Story Ever Told by the Sun-
 papers, The," 773
 Worthington, B. T. S., 387
 Worton, 927, 928
 — Creek, 927
 — Point, 24
 Wright, Benjamin, 1045
 — Edward, 1069
 — Gustavus, 1063
 — James Martin, 517
 — Martin L., 467-468
 — Robert, 731, 905, 922, 1062, 1064
 — Samuel Tarbutt, Capt., 404
 — Solomon, 456, 905, 1059, 1060
 — Thomas, 1059, 1063
 — Turbutt, 455, 476, 1059, 1060
 Wright Resolution of 1776, 455, 461
 — Resolution of 1833, 467-469
 Writ of *habeas corpus* suspended, 542
 Wyatt, Gov., 201
 Wye, 441, 684, 947
 — Heights, 495
 — House, Oxford, Talbot County, 256,
 380, 783, 807
 — Island, 789, 963
 — Mills, 25, 1070
 — Oak, Wye Mills, 58 (Illus.)
 — River, 944, 946, 951, 1055, 1056, 1058,
 1062, 1066
 Wylie, Elinor, 813
 Wytfliet's map, 4
 Yardley, Michael, 87
 Yarmouth Race Ground, Kent County, 931,
 938
 Yeardley, Argoll, 83, 118, 126
 — Sir George, Gov., 74, 79, 81, 87, 93
 Yeo, Hugh, 102
 Yeo's Neck, 102
 Yerby, George T., Dr., 563
 Yong (Young), Jacob, 59
 — Thomas, Capt., 204, 281
 York, Talbot County, 177, 944
 — River, 12, 164, 166, 172
 Yorktown, 424
 — ferry, 179
 Youall, Thomas, 54

